Sweetsense Scan &

Joint Project

Bara no Tameni

v13 ch49

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Translator: Oloore
Raws: At the network
Editor: Begui-chan
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Visit us: http://dropsnoyscan.blogspot.com/

Recruiting: Urgent

Translator: Japaneses> English
Proofreader: 1 person only

Note

Anyone that have or had "soshite shunpuu ni sasayaite" in Japanese raw and wouldn't mind to share it with us, would be more than welcome.

We have some manga waiting for you so lend us a hand

Interested send us an inbox to beguil42@gmail.com

More info visit us at: dropsnjoyscan.blogspot.com

＊プチコミフラワーコミックス＊

薔薇のために

13

吉村明美

薔薇のために

13

もくじ

第49話
まばたきの闇●5

第50話
眠らない窓●49

第51話
涙がかわくまで●95

第52話
君の植えた薔薇●135

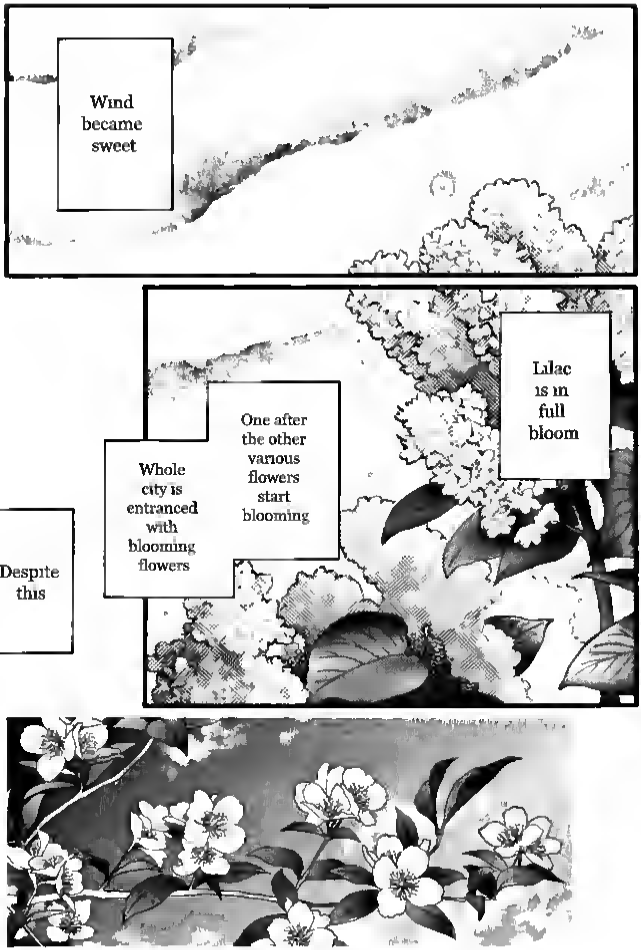
〈いままでのあらすじ〉

祖母と死に別れ、母親と異父兄弟の住む札幌の花屋敷家で暮らし始めた枕野ゆり。母・しょう子を筆頭に、家族はそろって超美しい容姿と超キツイ性格の持ち主でした。やがて、ゆりは兄の菫に恋心を抱き始めます。ところが、ゆりはしょう子の娘ではないことが判明。ゆりはそのまま花屋敷家に残ることになりますが、ゆりは菫に対して、日ごとに思いをつのらせます。菫は今も死んだ恋人のセリを愛していますが、次第にゆりに特別な感情を持ち始めます。ある日、唯一血のつながった弟の葵が、弟ではない可能性があるとわかり…。

＊くわしい物語は、薔薇のために①～⑫(発売中)でどうぞ

第49話 まばたきの
KISSING
WITH JUST
EYES

第49話 まばたきの闇
FLICKERING DARKNESS


Wind became sweet
Lilac is in full bloom
One after the other various flowers start blooming
Whole city is entranced with blooming flowers
Despite this

What...
should I do?
IF YOU ARE GOING TO REJECT ME,
[THERE IS ONLY ONE REASON
"I HATE YOU"]
HOW CAN I HATE HIM?!
IF WE ARE NOT BROTHER AND SISTER, THE REASON TO REJECT HIM..

No matter how many times I will tell that I love Sumire-san,
he abandoned me completely
I WON'T COMPLAIN DO AS YOU LIKE
IF YOU SAY YOU ARE NOT HER BROTHER
Obstinately following my unrequited love, only I was hap
Sumire-san was suffering all this time and
Aoi-kun as well...

I was rather selfish
Hu hu
I WANT TO BECOME HEARTBROKEN
AHH!
IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE!
WITH THIS THICKHEADED SCANK!
LET'S SAY IT MORE
MANJUU-LIKE FATTY!

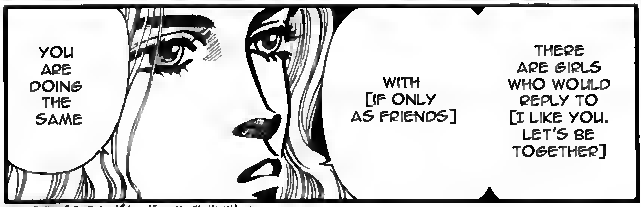
Because I'm an idiot
I don't know what I should do
AH, DAMMIT! WHY AM I CRYING!
IF I HAVE TIME TO CRY, THEN I SHOULD THINK OF MORE IMPORTANT THINGS
WHAT SHOULD I DO AFTER THIS?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!

BECAUSE YOU THINK ONLY ABOUT THEM,
YOU DON'T SEE THE WAY OUT
EH?
FIRST, CLEARLY DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT TO DO
THEN THINK OF A WAY TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND IT
MAKE THEM UNDER-STAND?
TO DO THIS, YOU NEED TO PUT ALL YOUR HEART INTO IT
AND TALK A LOT WITH THEM

NO
NEITHER WITH AOI, OR WITH SUMIRE
NO
YOU DIDN'T TALK WITH THEM?
I SEE.
IF YOU WORK OUT THESE PROBLEMS ONE BY ONE, YOU WILL FIND WAY OUT
WELL...
TO HAVE EVERYTHING AS IT WAS BEFORE
PROBLEM NO.1 [WHAT DO I WANT TO DO?]

I WANT TO RETURN TO TIME WHEN I WASN'T IN LOVE WITH SUMIRE-SAN AND STILL WAS A SISTER TO AOI-KUN!
IT IS FINE TO HAVE IT BACK THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE!
THAT'S IT
PROBLEM NO.2 [BUT IT IS NOT AN ANSWER FOR AOI-KUN WHO REFUSES TO ACCEPT EVERYTHING ACCEPT FOR "HATE YOU" REASON]
BUT I DON'T REMEMBER THAT I STOPPED BEING HIS SISTER!!
THIS SHOULD NOT BE ONE-SIDED DECISION! AOI-KUN SAID THAT HE STOPPED BEING MY BROTHER

PROBLEM NO.3 [HOW TO MAKE AOI-KUN UNDERSTAND]
THERE IS NOT WAY TO DO IT!
BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE BROTHER AND SISTER
THAT IS THE IMPORTANT CHECKPOINT
OH, THAT'S IT!
PROBLEM NO 5 [WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR SENSES THAT YOU NEED TO BE CALLED OUT BEFORE YOU NOTICE]
PROBLEM NO 4 [WHY DOES AOI-KUN ALWAYS APPEAR SUDDENLY FROM BEHIND?]


YOU ARE DOING THE SAME
WITH [IF ONLY AS FRIENDS]
THERE ARE GIRLS WHO WOULD REPLY TO [I LIKE YOU. LET'S BE TOGETHER]

THERE IS NO MAN IN THIS WORLD WHO WOULD BE HAPPY WITH SUCH ANSWER
BUT I DON'T WANT TO LIE
EVEN THOUGH I LIKE AOI-KUN VERY MUCH, IT'S NOT LOVE,
BUT I REFUSE TO CHANGE IT INTO "HATE YOU" THING

IT MAY BE OK FOR YOU, BUT FOR ME IT'S LIKE BEING HALF -DEAD
IF YOU PLAN TO CONTINUE THIS WAY,
BETTER FINISH ME OFF COMPLETELY
I BEG YOU
WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE BLOOD -RELATED
IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

IT IS
OF COURSE IT IS IMPORTANT
IF AOI-KUN WERE A STRANGER,
WHY WOULD I LIVE IN THIS HOUSE?
TO BE LEFT ALONE IN THIS WORLD FULL OF STRANGERS
NATURALLY I WOULD BE SCARED
EVEN IF I'M SELFISH, EVEN IF I'M PAMPERED, I WANT TO HOLD SOMEONE'S HAND!
I ALSO WANT A PLACE TO RETURN TO!

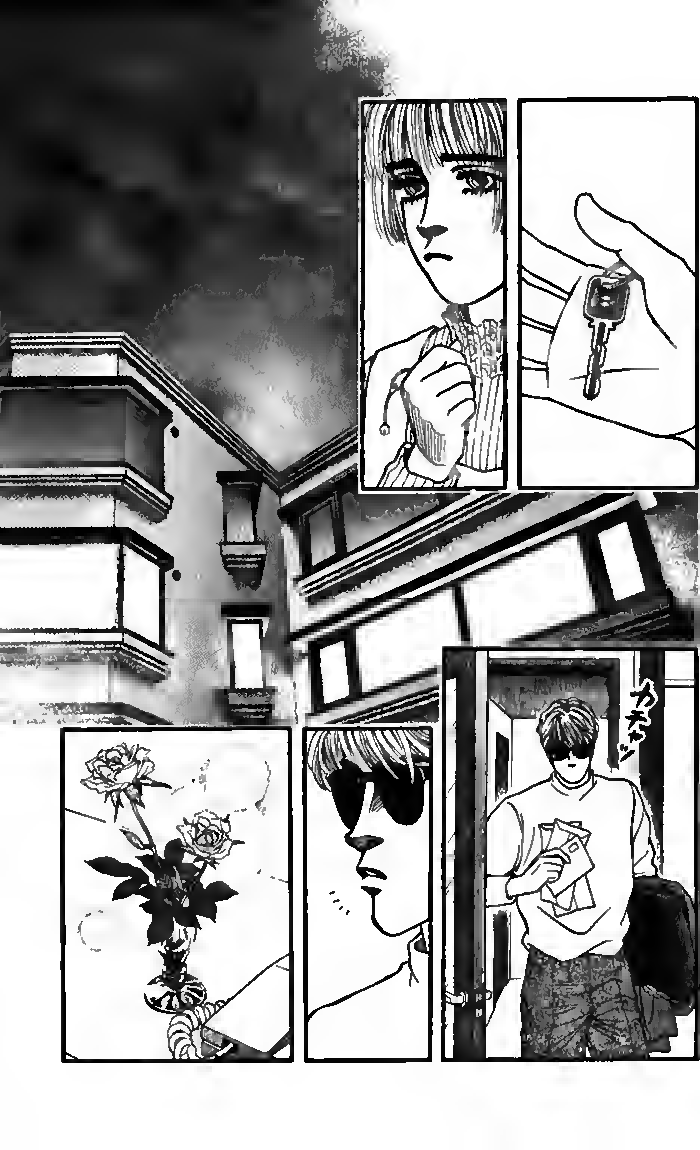
WHY IT CAN'T BE IF IT IS NOT LOVE?
SO...
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE AOI-KUN

I DON'T TAKE PLEASURE IN DRIVING YOU TO THE WALL
I WANT TO EMBRACE WITH BOTH ARMS
THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO BRAKE AWAY
AND UNTANGLE OUR FORCED ONE-HAND CONNECTION
EVEN IF THERE IS A RISK THAT WHEN I LET GO OF YOUR HAND, I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO EVER GET IT BACK

IN TRUTH, TONIGHT I PLANNED TO RAVISH YOU
BUT AS EXPECTED I DON'T HAVE GUTS TO GO SO FAR
SO MUCH I LOVE YOU
YURI..

WHAT SHOULD WE DO FROM NOW ON
I DON'T KNOW
EITHER

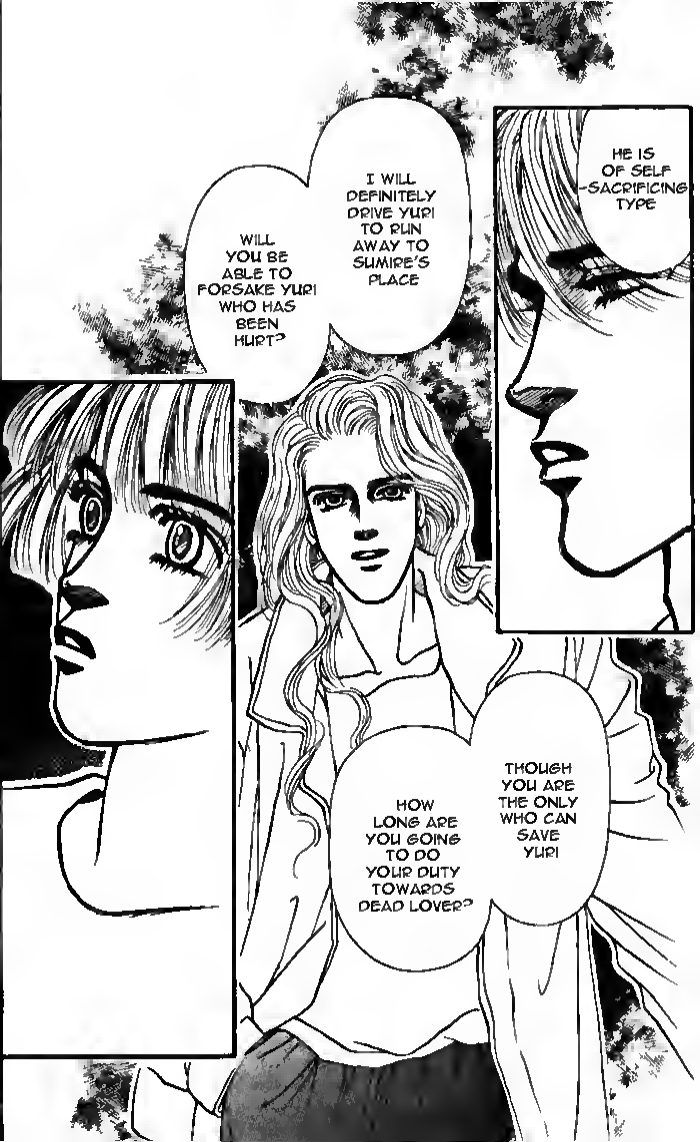
In small crack
between light
and color,
I was looking at,
darkness slipped
in
Invisible
darkness


カチャ

WELCOME BACK
GARDEN IS IN FULL BLOOM
EH?
DON'T TELL ME, AOI...
...YOU,

I'M IN THE SAME SITUATION
BUT DESPITE THIS YOU TREATED ME KINDLY
THANK YOU
I KNEW SUMIRE-SAN WAS SUFFERING
NO..
NOTHING
I WAS HAPPY JUST BEING IN ONE-SIDED LOVE,
BUT I KNOW SUMIRE -SAN'S PAIN,
AND CAN'T BEHAVE LIKE A PAMPERED CHILD
I NEED TO DRAW A LINE PROPERLY BETWEEN THESE TWO SITUATIONS

MY ONE-SIDED LOVE ENDS TODAY!
WITH ALL MY POWER I WILL ENDEAVOR TO FORGET!
THAT NIGHT WHEN HE CAME TO TELL ME THAT HE IS NOT MY BROTHER, HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO RAPE YOU
YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS?
AOI IS NOT SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING FELLOW LIKE YOU
EH?


HE IS OF SELF-SACRIFICING TYPE
I WILL DEFINITELY DRIVE YURI TO RUN AWAY TO SUMIRE'S PLACE
WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FORSAKE YURI WHO HAS BEEN HURT?
THOUGH YOU ARE THE ONLY WHO CAN SAVE YURI
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO DO YOUR DUTY TOWARDS DEAD LOVER?

BUT HE DESISTED FROM DOING IT
SOME TIME AGO AOI-KUN SEEMED TO REACH A CLIFF EDGE
HE REALLY LOVES YOU
BECAUSE EVEN IF YOU COME TO HATE HIM,
HE IS GOING TO SUPPORT YOUR LOVE
AS EXPECTED I DON'T HAVE GUTS FOR IT
NOT MINDING WHETHER HE WILL BE HATED

HE OBVIOUSLY DID NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF HURTING ME
COMPARED TO ME, HE IS MUCH MORE SINCERE
YES
NOW THAT I KNOW IT,
I MYSELF CANNOT FORSAKE AOI-KUN
IS SUMIRE-SAN ALSO A SELF -SACRIFICING PERSON?

I CLEARLY HEAR AS IF YOU ARE TRYING TO SAY [NOTICE AOI]
YES
BECAUSE I CAN NEITHER GIVE UP ON SERI NOR FORGET HER
AND I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO HINDER AOI'S LOVE IF HE IS NOT YOUR BROTHER
AND I AM NOT WORTH YOUR LOVE EITHER

BETTER TAKE NOT THIS BROKEN MAN, BUT AOI
IN THE END I FAILED TO MAKE ANYBODY HAPPY
I SEE
I WILL DO SO

WELL, I'M GOING HOME
ピンポーン

WHY AM I CRYING?
WHY AM I RUNNING AWAY?
IT'S FINE THIS WAY
THAT'S WHY
WITH ALL POWER
IN ORDER TO FORGET!!

IDIOT!
BE
CAREFUL!

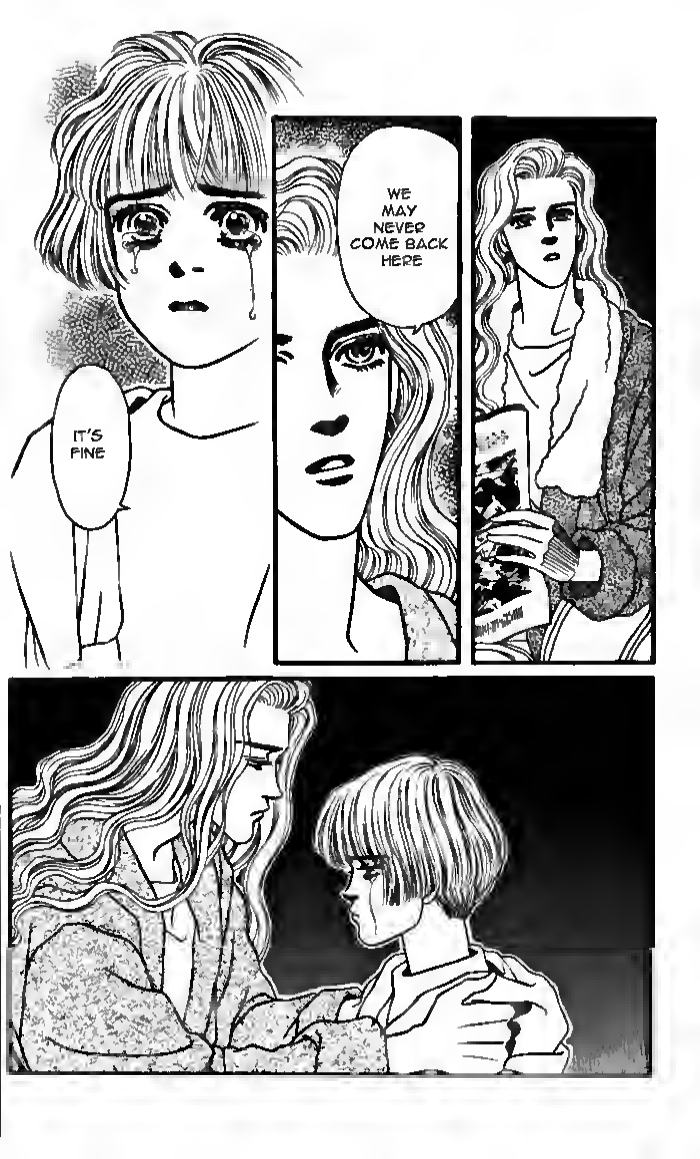
LET GO OF MY HAND..
YURI
SOME REGRETS MIGHT REMAIN,
I CAN'T
SO LET GO OF MY HAND
I DON'T KNOW
WHY DID YOU CHASE AFTER ME?
STOP IT ALREADY!!

IT WILL DRIVE ME CRAZY!
YOU FEEL TROUBLED WITH MY FEELINGS,
YET YOU COME AFTER ME WHEN I LEAVE
YES, THAT'S RIGHT THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO CHOOSE AOI
SUMIRE-SAN, I WILL SAY ONLY ONE THING -
I HAVE NEVER, EVEN ONCE, ASKED YOU TO CAST ASIDE SERI-SAN!!

WHY SHE HAS TO BE CAST ASIDE?
DO I ALSO HAVE TO CAST ASIDE SERI-SAN WHO LIVES INSIDE ME?
IF YOU NEED TO CAST HER ASIDE TO ACCEPT ME,
THEN WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME?
I DON'T WANT IT!!
YURI!

Do I also have to cast aside Seri-san who lives inside me?
YURI...

LET'S GO SOMEWHERE TOGETHER, JUST THE TWO OF US


WE MAY NEVER COME BACK HERE
IT'S FINE

THEN
LET'S GO

YES
SO WHEN ASKED, HE GAVE VAGUE ANSWER
KUSANAGI DIDN'T KNOW HIS OWN BLOOD TYPE
MOTHER IS IT FOR REAL?
IT'S OBVIOUS BECAUSE AOI IS KUSANAGI'S KID
THAT'S RIGHT THE SAME BLOOD TYPE AS AOI'S
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT ACCIDENT HE NEEDED BLOOD TRANSFUSION
AOI IS?

第49話 ―まばたきの闇■おわり

のたくた その1

子供のころよく道草をくっていた。寄り道のことではない。道の草を食ってたんである。土から生えたての茎や葉が、赤味をおびたすっぱい草で、今思えば「スカンポ」だと思うが、長崎ではそのへんにいくらでも生えてたものが、横浜に来たらまるで見つけられなくて、似た草をさがしてはかじり、アゴがはずれそうになりながら、こりなかった。すっぱい草は他にもあって、クローバーをでかくしたような葉っぱに、ピンクの花をつける「みつ葉」と勝手に呼んでた草は、横浜にもどっさりあって、束でかじって幸せになっていた。(札幌で、この草を見たことはない)竹もよくかじっていた。竹の子ではない。青竹をねじ折ってガブ。口がズタボロになる。サトウキビと間違えてんだワ。かじっても甘くなければ普通あきらめるもんだが、別の竹やぶに乱入してはガブ。大人になって、植物図鑑をながめていると、昔食べた草が載ってたりする。「あーこれ食ったー」などと懐かしがってると「有毒」と書いてある。まずかったはずだ。有毒といえばあのころは、水仙の球根をラッキョウだと思っていた。いつか食ってやろうと隠匿していたが、食べると死んだりするらしい。あぶなかった。

Bara no Tameni

v13 ch50

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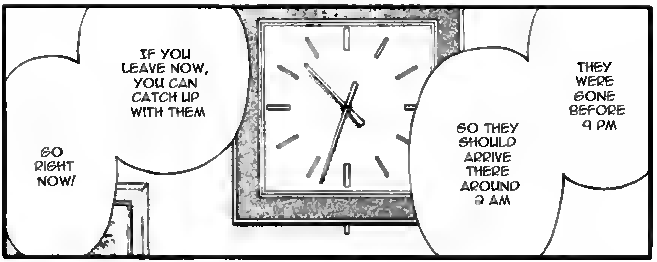
SLEEPLESS WINDOW
第50話
眠らない窓

IS THAT TRUE?!
IT'S TRUE
AOI AND YURI ARE BLOOD RELATED

I COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH HER
SHE WENT OVERSEAS AND WAS MOVING ALL AROUND EUROPE,
AT LAST NOT LONG AGO I MANAGED TO FIND HER IN ENGLAND
WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK MOTHER FROM THE BEGINNING?
I MYSELF WAS NOT CERTAIN BEFORE I ASKED MOTHER DIRECTLY
IF YOU DID, EVEN AOI WOULD...
I CONTACTED DOCTOR FROM HOSPITAL WHERE KUSAKA-SAN WAS BROUGHT TO AFTER THE ACCIDENT
THAT'S WHY I GOT CONFIRMATION FROM OTHER SOURCE
BUT I STILL WOULDN'T COUNT TOO MUCH ON HER WORDS

IF YOU THINK I'M LYING, YOU CAN ASK THAT DOCTOR!
HE SHOULD WORK IN TOKYO MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL NOW
EVEN I SOMETIMES TELL TRUTH
YOU HOW DID YOU DO THAT?!
WELL, HE WAS MOTHER'S ACQUAINTANCE
WHEN I CALLED, IT WAS HIS NIGHT SHIFT
AND I FOUND ABOUT BLOOD TYPE AND
AOI BEING KUSANAGI-SAN'S CHILD
THEN I CALLED YOU
I WANT YOU TO BRING BACK AOI AND YURI-CHAN

HOW DISAPPEARED FROM THE GARAGE IT MEANS THEY WENT ON A LONG JOURNEY
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY WENT TO. HOW I COULD BRING THEM BACK?!
TO FURANO?
WE ARE SPEAKING ABOUT AOI, SO HE DEFINITELY WOULD WANT TO STOP SOMEWHERE TO EAT,
SO PLUS AN HOUR FOR MEAL.
IT WILL TAKE FOUR HOURS TO GET FROM SAPPORO TO FURANO BY CAR
THE VILLA'S KEY ALSO DISAPPEARED


GO RIGHT NOW!
IF YOU LEAVE NOW, YOU CAN CATCH UP WITH THEM
SO THEY SHOULD ARRIVE THERE AROUND 2 AM
THEY WERE GONE BEFORE 9 PM

WHY??
I REFUSE

AOI HAS ONLY THIS CHANCE TO ACT AS A [MAN] TOWARDS YURI
IF THEY KNOW TRUTH,
HE WILL BE [YOUNGER BROTHER] TILL THE VERY END
IT'S HIS FIRST AND LAST CHANCE IN A LIFETIME
AND...
IT WAS ME WHO CORNERED YURI TILL SHE HAD TO FLEE WITH AOI
SO I CAN'T NOW SHIFT AGAIN TO BEING OLDER BROTHER TO BRING THEM BOTH BACK

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AOI DIDN'T QUITE MIND THE POSSIBILITY OF BLOOD RELATIONS!!
WHY ARE YOU SAYING SUCH CARELESS THING? WHAT WITH THIS [IF THEY KNOW THE TRUTH]?!
SO FAR NO MISTAKES HAVE BEEN MADE
BECAUSE BY ALL MEANS YURI-CHAN REFUSED HIM
IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THAT, AOI WOULD HAVE PRESSED HIS ISSUE
AND HE IS ALREADY STARTED PRESSING IT
SUMIRE!
IT'S YOUR FAULT!!

AOI IS NOT SUCH A SHALLOW PERSON TO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS!
BUT YURI-CHAN IS SIMPLY DESPERATE!!
AOI MAYBE IN LOVE,
TO CHASE AFTER THEM AND TO BRING THEM BOTH BACK BY ALL MEANS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

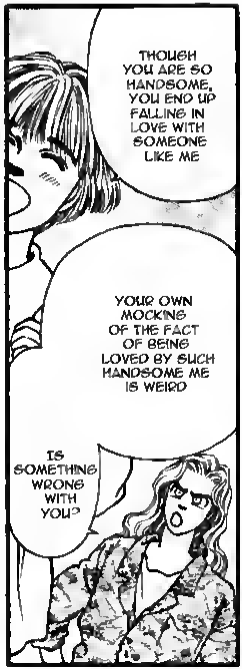
BECAUSE HE REALLY LOVES HER,
USING YURI'S DESPERATION AND PRESSING HIS FEELINGS
WILL BE UNBEARABLE FOR HIM
STUPID
AOI IS NOT AN IDIOT TO JUST STAND AND WATCH
HE IS CAPABLE OF WINNING HER OVER NOT BECAUSE OF HER DESPERATION, BUT THROUGH SEDUCING HER
AND THEN HE WILL WIN HER HEART
IT'S HOW LOVE WORKS
IF THEY CROSS THIS LINE,
NO ONE WILL SAVE YURI-CHAN!

AND IF THEN SHE LEARNS THE TRUTH
YURI-CHAN WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH IT!
ARE YOU OK WITH THIS?

ぱっ

I'M FINE
I'M SORRY
SELFISHLY MAKING YOU TO COME WITH ME
AREN'T YOU COLD?
MY BEHAVIOR TOWARDS AIO-KUN IS UNFEELING AND I UNDERSTAND IT
I USE YOU AS A TOOL TO FORGET SUMIRE-SAN
THOUGH I KNOW AOI-KUN'S FEELING

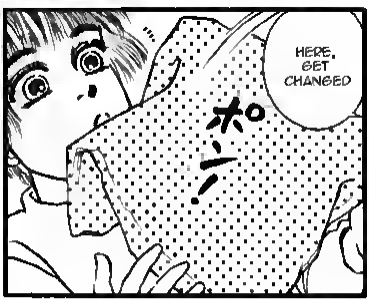
I AM AWARE THAT YOU ARE IN DESPAIR,
AND I WILL STAY WITH YOU TILL YOU CALM DOWN
IT IS TO LET YOU FORGET
I WILL MAKE YOU FORGET


THOUGH YOU ARE SO HANDSOME, YOU END UP FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME
YOUR OWN MOCKING OF THE FACT OF BEING LOVED BY SUCH HANDSOME ME IS WEIRD
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU?

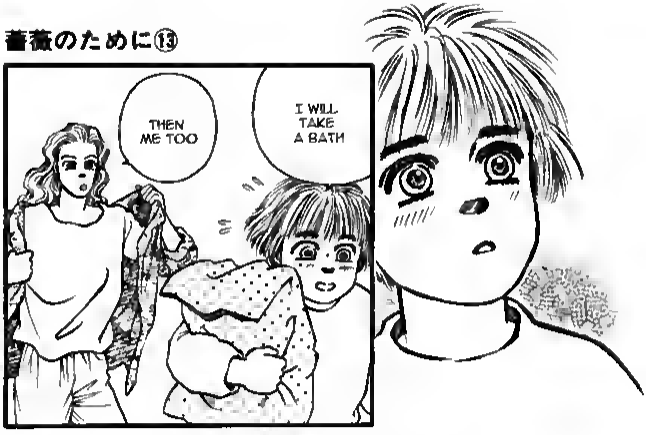
SILLY. ASK ME!
I WILL LOVE YOU WITH MY BODY AND SOUL
HAHAHA. AOI-KUN IS REALLY ECCENTRIC

HOW?
THOUGH I WON'T ASK YOU HOW

WHAT'S WITH THIS?
I TOOK IT FROM YOUR DRESSER


HERE, GET CHANGED
ポ…ン!

WHEN YOU LEFT HOME IN TEARS, IT WASN'T TIME TO THINK ABOUT CHANGING CLOTHES
BUT EVEN PANTIES ARE HERE
YOUR PANTIES ARE REALLY STRETCHED
I ADMIT THAT THEY ARE FROM GOOD MATERIAL,
BUT COULDN'T YOU CHOOSE SOMETHING MORE SEXY?
EVEN ELEPHANT COULD WEAR THEM
I'M FATTY AFTER ALL!
HMPH
YOU GAINED SOME ENERGY BACK

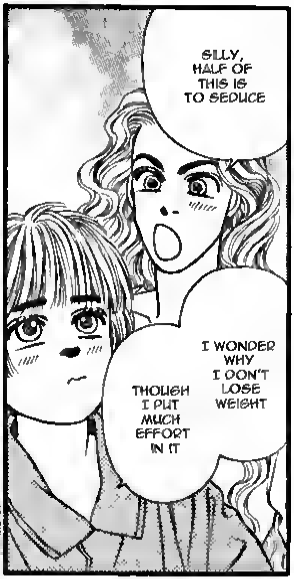

I WILL TAKE A BATH
THEN ME TOO

AOI-KUN, TOOK ONE AT HOME, RIGHT?!
DON'T GET MAD

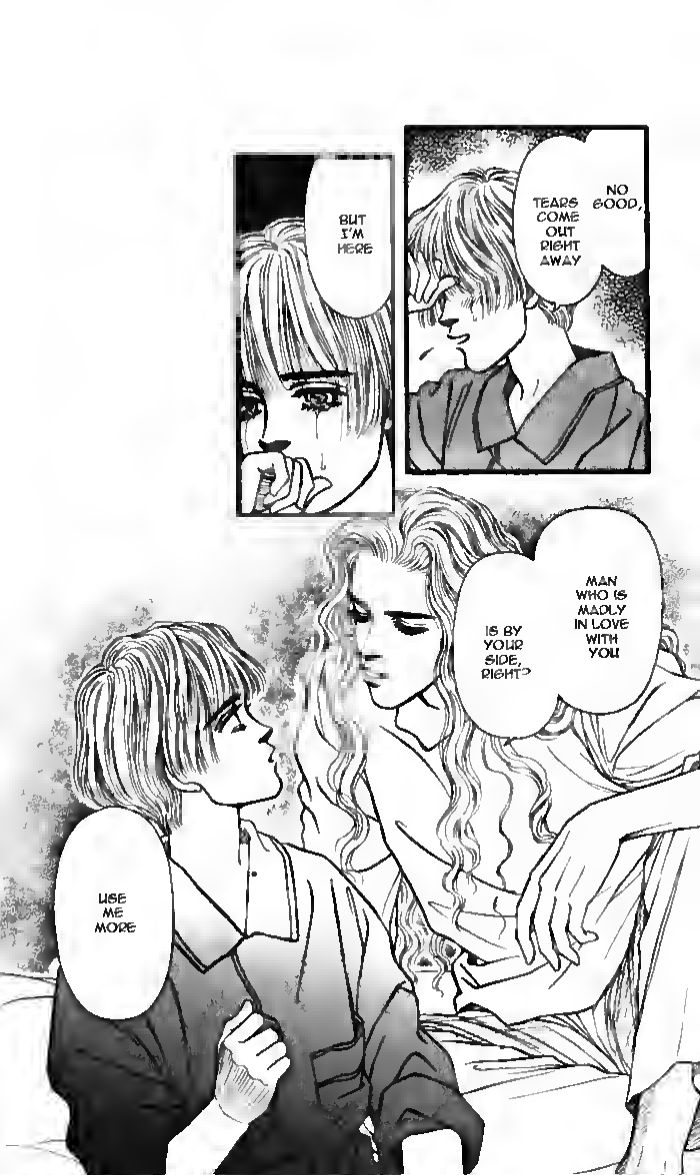
EVEN YOU LOOK SLENDER IN MAN'S CLOTHES
HA HA HA HA
ISN'T IT AOI-KUN'S PAJAMA?
BUT IT'S CUTE
OF COURSE! IF ALL THIS PAJAMA WAS FULLY PACKED WITH FLESH, I WOULD RATHER DIE!
COME HERE

WHATEVER AOI-KUN SAYS, IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT FOOD!
YES, MAKES ME WANT TO EAT YOU

I LOVE YOUR BODY
WARM AND SOFT
LIKE STEAMED MEAT BUN?

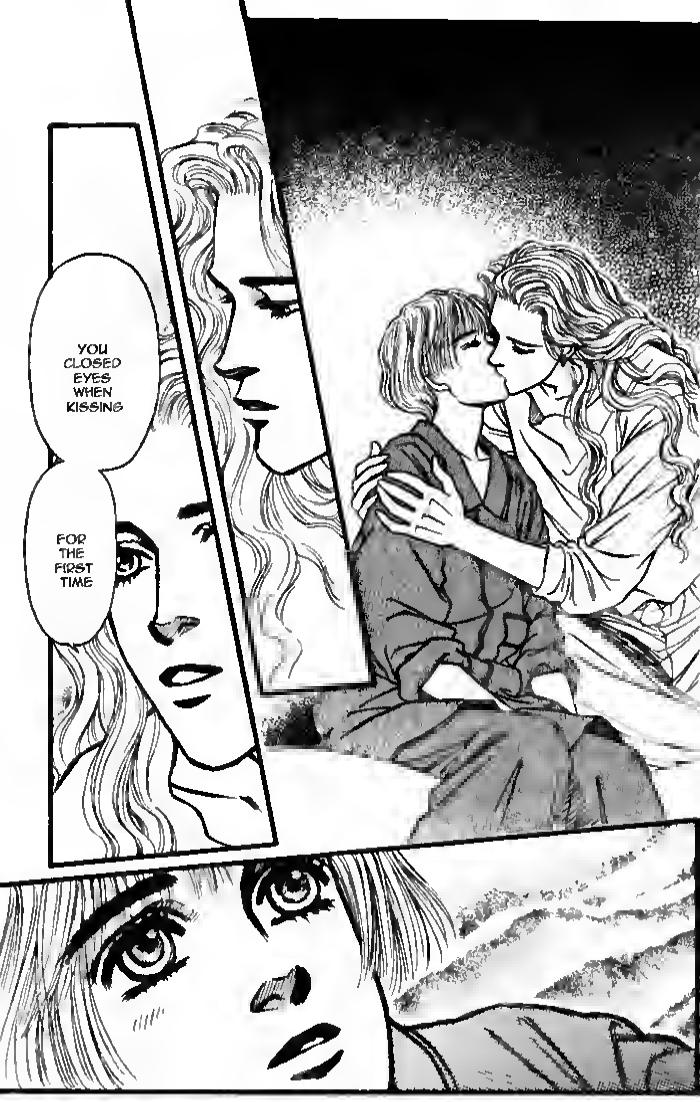

SILLY, HALF OF THIS IS TO SEDUCE
I WONDER WHY I DON'T LOSE WEIGHT
THOUGH I PUT MUCH EFFORT IN IT

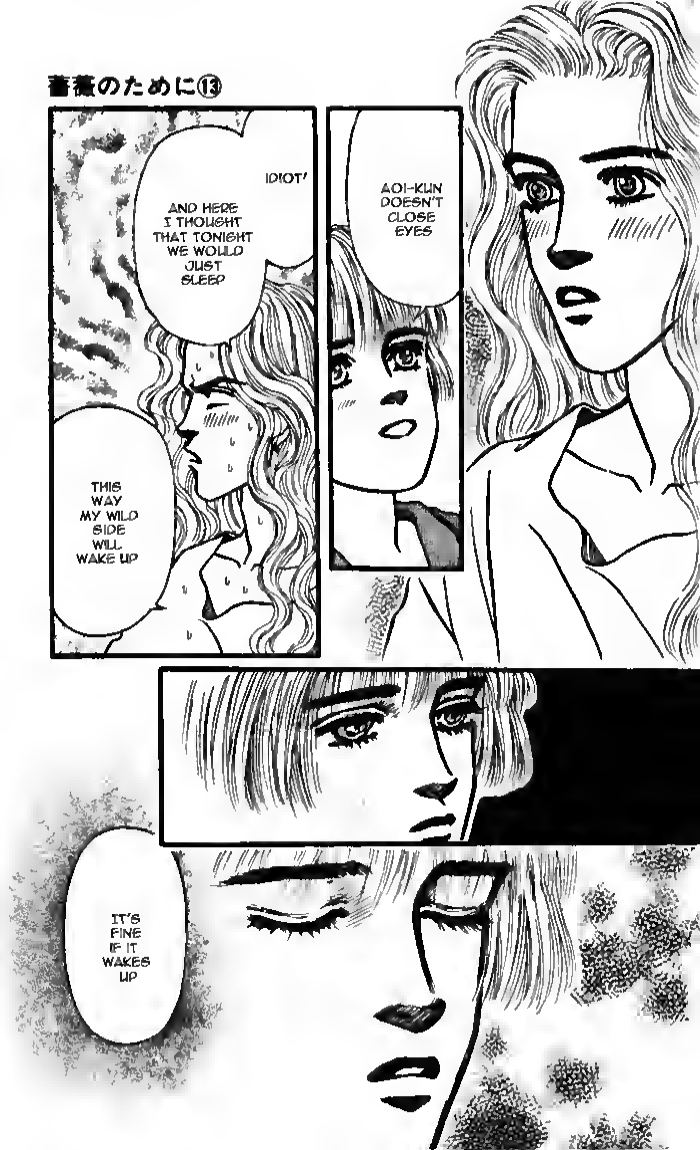
ONLY MY HEART GOT THIN

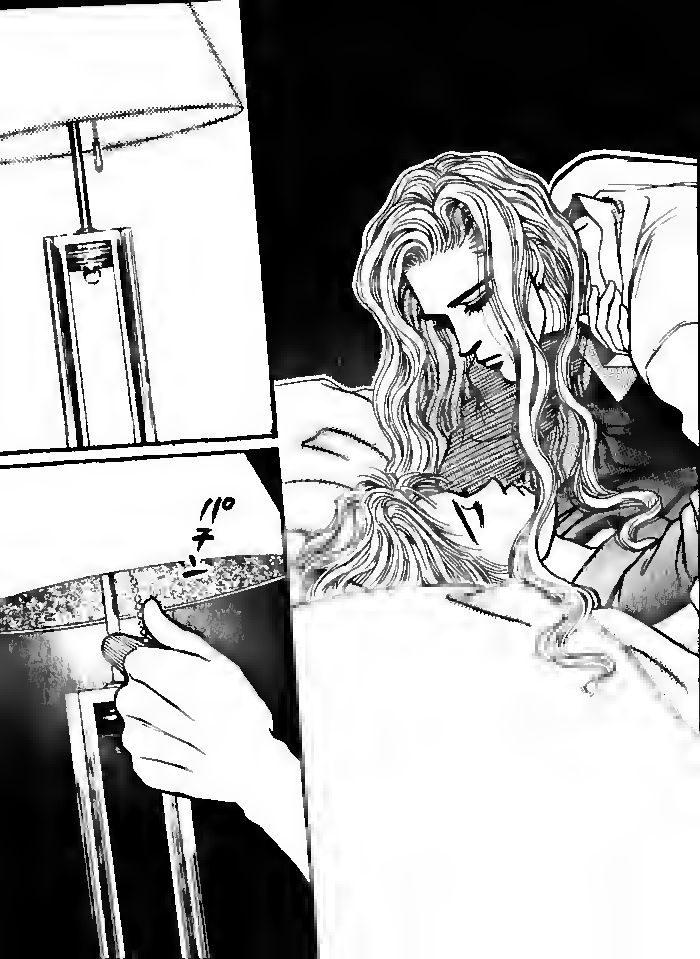

NO GOOD, TEARS COME OUT RIGHT AWAY
BUT I'M HERE
MAN WHO IS MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU
IS BY YOUR SIDE, RIGHT?
USE ME MORE

BECAUSE I'M HERE FOR YOUR SAKE
...I LIKE AOI-KUN'S HAIR
WHEN YOUR HAIR FALLS ON MY SHOULDERS AND ARMS
I ALWAYS GET A MYSTERIOUS FEELING
WOMEN DON'T USUALLY EXPERIENCE THIS,
BUT

I FEEL
REAL
RELIEF


YOU CLOSED EYES WHEN KISSING
FOR THE FIRST TIME


IDIOT!
AND HERE I THOUGHT THAT TONIGHT WE WOULD JUST SLEEP
THIS WAY MY WILD SIDE WILL WAKE UP
AOI-KUN DOESN'T CLOSE EYES
IT'S FINE IF IT WAKES UP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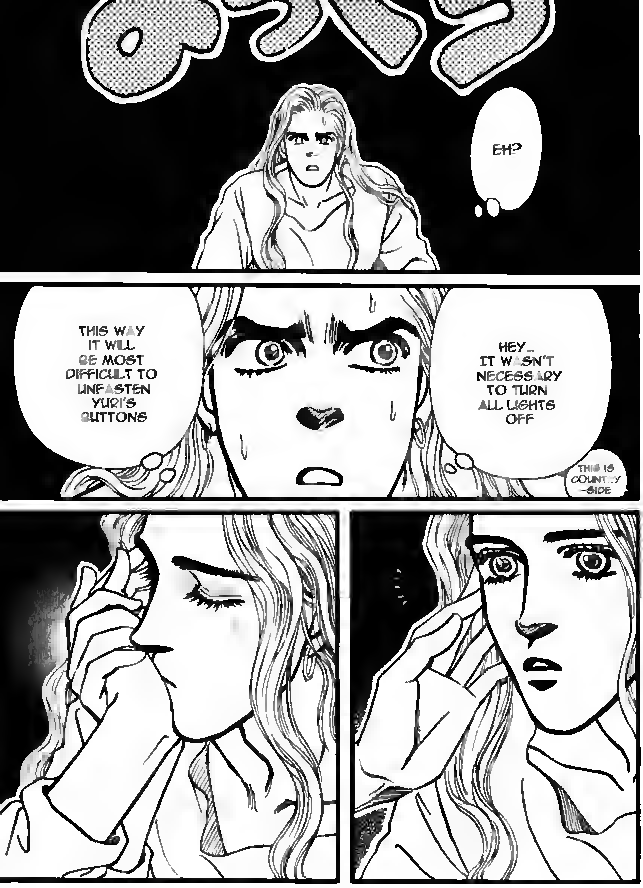
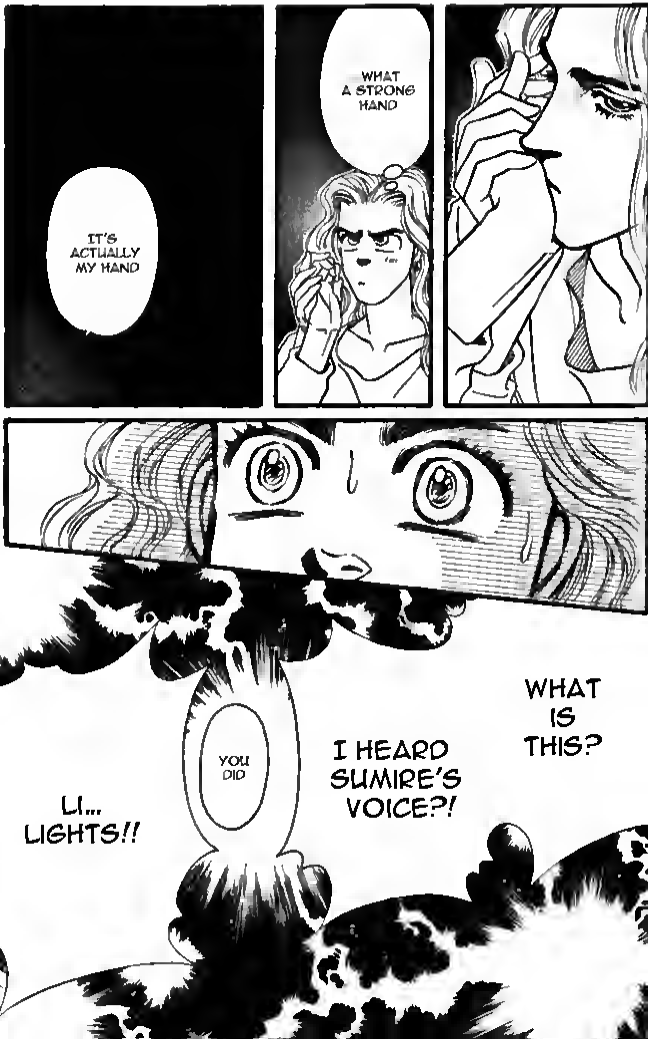
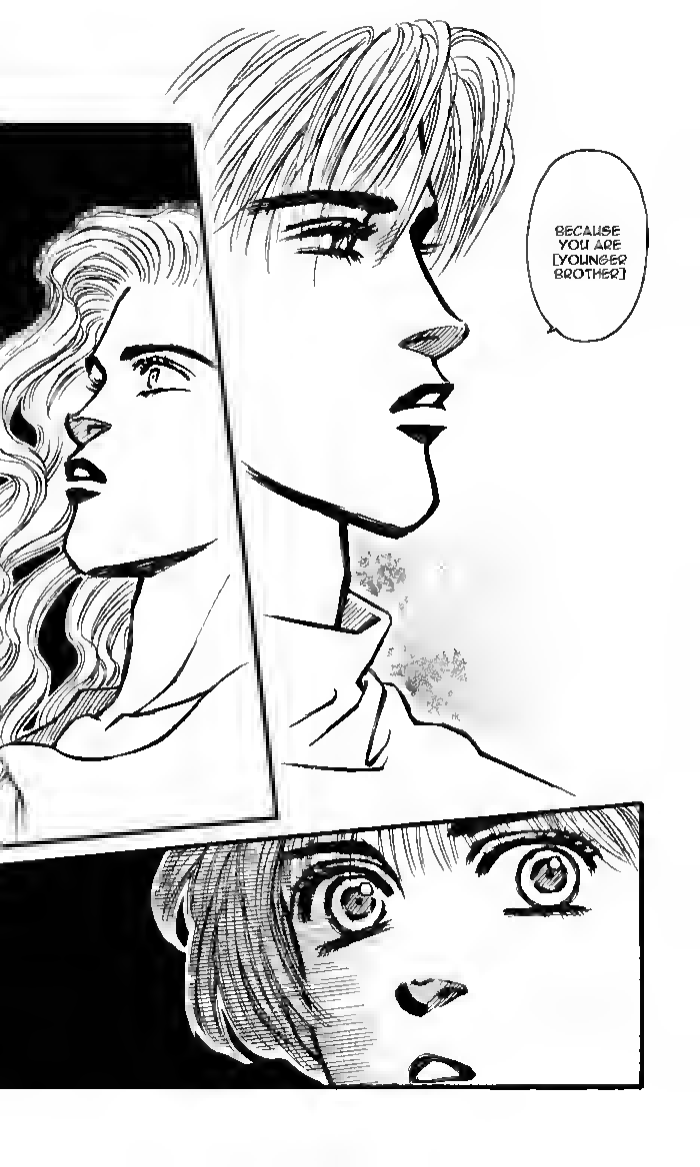

EH?
THIS WAY IT WILL BE MOST DIFFICULT TO UNFASTEN YURI'S BUTTONS
HEY... IT WASN'T NECESSARY TO TURN ALL LIGHTS OFF
THIS IS COUNTRY-SIDE


IT'S ACTUALLY MY HAND
WHAT A STRONG HAND
WHAT IS THIS?
I HEARD SUMIRE'S VOICE?!
YOU DID
LI... LIGHTS!!

ぱっ
WHEN DID YOU?
FROM WHEN THE LIGHTS WERE TURNED OFF
WHAT DID YOU COME FOR??
TO STOP YOU

YURI, STAY HERE!
だっ
AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE TO DO SO!!
GET OUT!
THAT'S RIGHT
THEN WHY?


BECAUSE YOU ARE [YOUNGER BROTHER]

FUYOU CHECKED EVERYTHING
WITH MOTHER AND WITH THE DOCTOR WHO WAS THE LAST ONE TO TREAT MR KUSANAGI
YOU ARE BROTHER AND SISTER
AOI!!

YURI, PLEASE, STAY HERE
I WILL BE BACK SOON"

I DON'T WANT TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE
I UNDERSTAND!
AOI!!
IT'S FOR YURI'S SAKE, RIGHT?
JUST A BIT MORE AND I WOULD LET HER FEEL REGRET FROM WHICH SHE WOULD NEVER RECOVER
I'M GRATEFUL THAT YOU CAME TO STOP ME

SORRY
YOU GOT THE MOST UNLUCKY NUMBER
—I
WHAT FACE I MAKE NOW, I WONDER
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
AM I DISAPPOINTED OR DO I FEEL RELIEVED?

THOUGH IT SEEMS I'M GLAD
THAT WE ARE NOT STRANGER
IT'S PAINFUL AND
TEARS WON'T STOP
This hot lump
I smashed
I, who can't love Yuri,
Crushed Aoi who loves her from the bottom of his heart

I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN'T REPLACE YURI,
BUT CAN'T I BECOME PARTIAL SUBSTITUTION?
..EH?
CAN'T IT BE ME?
I WON'T GIVE YOU MY HEART,
BUT I CAN OFFER YOU MY BODY
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...
I'M ALWAYS SERIOUS
DON'T JOKE IN TIME LIKE THIS!

I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELING THE BEST
...WAIT
DON'T KNOCK ME DOWN!
IT'S NOT AN OFFER
WAIT!
EVEN I WANTED TO EMBRACE YURI

IT WILL DRIVE ME CRAZY!!
THAT TIME WHILE I TELLING HER TO TAKE YOU
I PURSUED HER
AND DIDN'T LET GO OF THE GRASPED HAND
THAT TIME ALREADY I COULDN'T HELP WANTING TO EMBRACE HER
BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME!
Sumire..

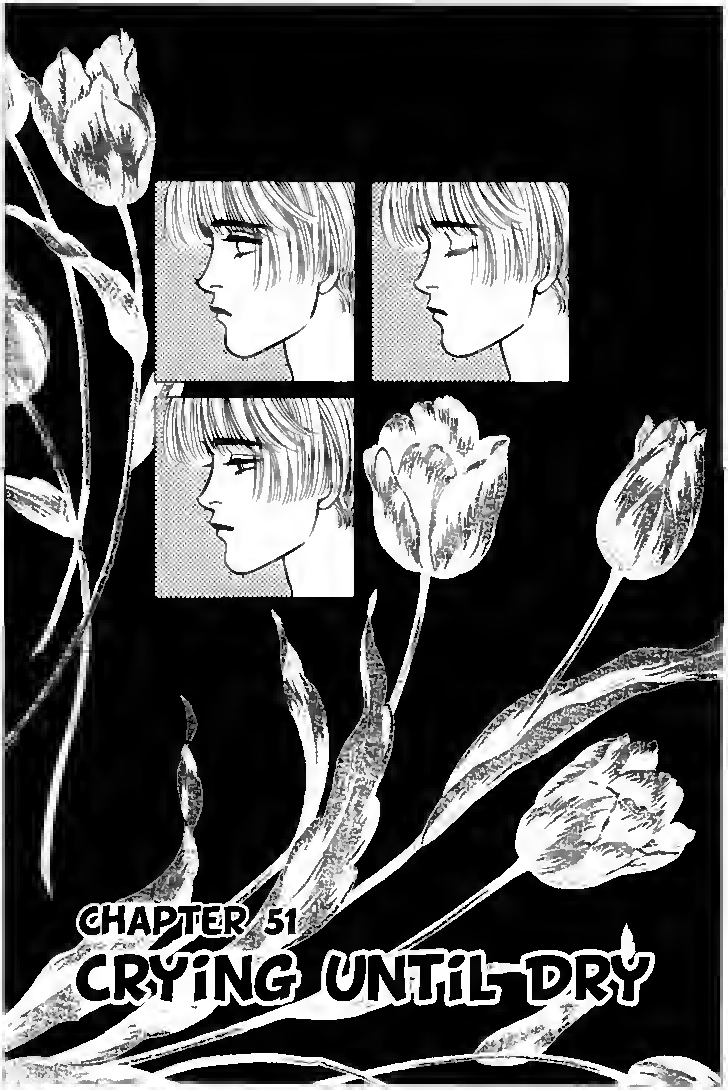
SUMIRE, YOU...
Loved Yuri so much?!

LET'S GO HOME
AND

第50話　眠らない窓■おわり

のたくた　その2

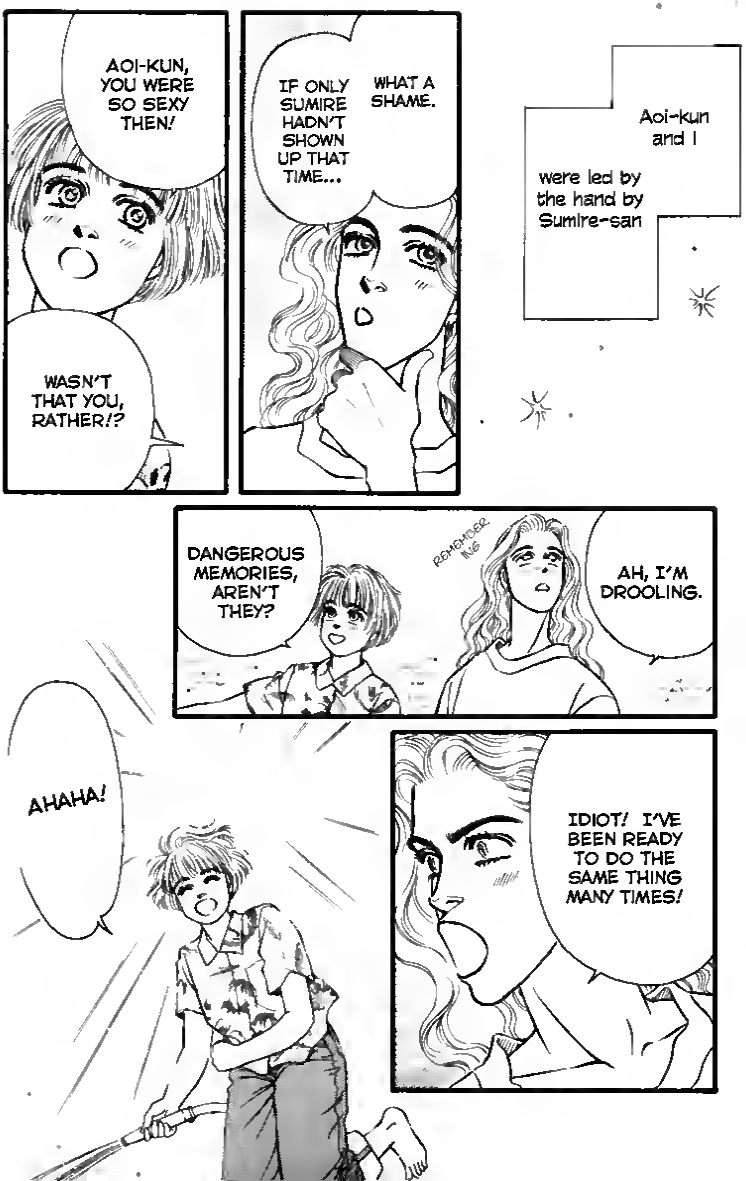
「わん」という名の妖怪がいるんだそうだ。人間の背たけより高い塀や生け垣の裏にひそんでいて　夜　そばを通る人に「わん」と声をかける。返事をしないと　襲ってくるらしい。小学生の時、クラスの男の子にきいた話だが、無茶な妖怪だ。夜道でいきなり声をかけられたら、ギョッとはしても返事なんかするか？「おい」ならともかく、「わん」じゃ声をかけられたとも思わんぞ。　つまりこれがこの妖怪の怖いとこなんだよ。返事なんかしそうにない状況をつくっておいて　襲ってくるわけだ。一応声はかけたぞってなもんで、トロくさい私なんか、一発で丸飲みだ。　あのころ家の近所にお寺があって、背の高いさざんかの生け垣が、延々続く小道を　どんなにおびえて帰ったことか。「絶対返事をするぞ！」と力をこめて歩くとよけい足が遅くなる私の頭に、パラリとさざんかが散って、心臓がのどにつまりそうなほど驚いてるとこへ　犬が飛びだしてきた時は　どうやって生きて帰ってきたのか　覚えてない。「わんに襲われない返事のし方」というのを、その男の子に教えてもらったのに、今じゃすっかり忘れてしまった。　さざんかを見ると「わん」を思い出す。
おんまりロマンチックじゃない。



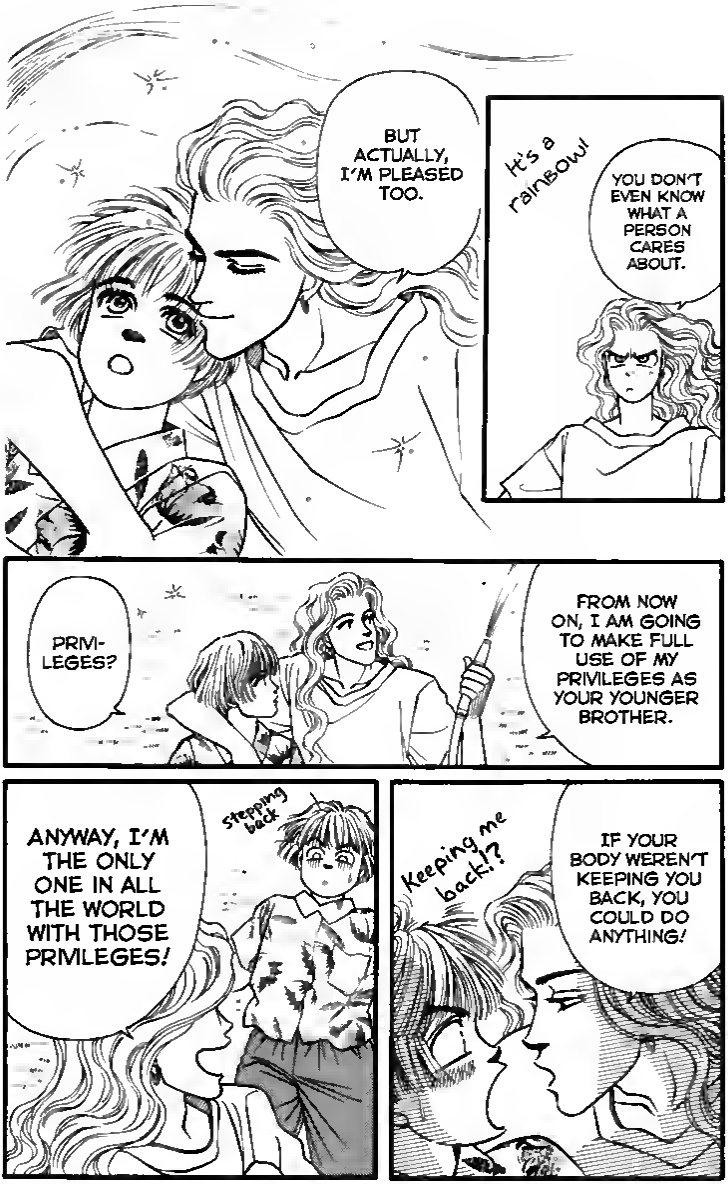
SCANLATION BY RPAPO

SPY CICADAS SINGING
ツクツクボーシ ツクツクボーシ

YEAH
IT'S NEW!
OH, THAT'S A NICE SHIRT YOU'RE WEARING!
I barely made it home.
From the despair of a night that might never have dawned again
Into this light.


AOI-KUN, YOU WERE SO SEXY THEN!
WASN'T THAT YOU, RATHER!?
IF ONLY SUMIRE HADN'T SHOWN UP THAT TIME...
WHAT A SHAME.
Aoi-kun and I were led by the hand by Sumire-san
DANGEROUS MEMORIES, AREN'T THEY?
REMEMBER ME
AH, I'M DROOLING.
AHAHA!
IDIOT! I'VE BEEN READY TO DO THE SAME THING MANY TIMES!

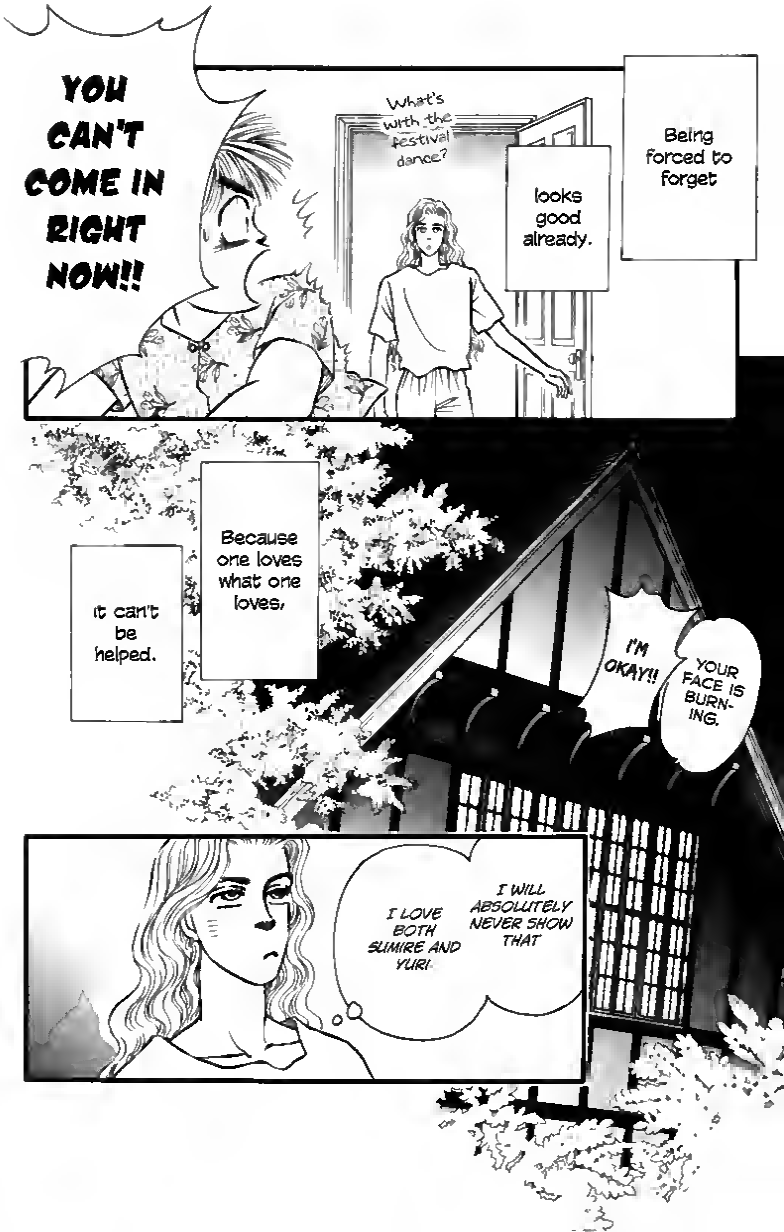
BUT I'M SEEING YOUR CHARM ALL OVER AGAIN.
I'M ALREADY OVER IT, SO.
NO LAUGHING ALLOWED!
AOI-KUN IS FANTASTIC!
AND THAT FANTASTIC AOI-KUN IS MY LITTLE BROTHER!
I'M INCREDIBLY HAPPY, REALLY I AM!
I AM LUCKIEST OF ALL!!


BUT ACTUALLY, I'M PLEASED TOO.
It's a rainbow!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT A PERSON CARES ABOUT.
PRIVI-LEGES?
FROM NOW ON, I AM GOING TO MAKE FULL USE OF MY PRIVILEGES AS YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER.
Stepping back
ANYWAY, I'M THE ONLY ONE IN ALL THE WORLD WITH THOSE PRIVILEGES!
Keeping me back!?
IF YOUR BODY WEREN'T KEEPING YOU BACK, YOU COULD DO ANYTHING!

That one's like a demon.
I'M THE CLOSEST!
I'M THE ONLY ONE IN WHOSE BODY FLOWS THE VERY SAME BLOOD!
IDIOT. LOVERS ARE STRANGERS.
WHAT!? AS IF LITTLE BROTHERS COMPARED TO LOVERS.
The cicadas are singing.
I'VE GOT A HUNCH IT WILL TURN INTO ONE.
THAT'S NOT A REFUSAL!!
All is drenched in light.
It was spring before I knew it.

WHEN I LOSE HOPE, I BECOME A COMPLETE IDIOT.
THOUGH I'M AN IDIOT EVEN AT THE BEST OF TIMES,
I HAVE REALIZED HOW TOTALLY FOOLISH I WAS.
ANYWAY, THIS TIME,
I HAVE CAUSED TROUBLE FOR EVERY-BODY.
-REFLECTION-
I CANNOT GO THERE.
.....
HOW DO I LOVE SUMIRE-SAN WITHOUT TORMENTING HIM?
WHAT WILL I DO ABOUT THIS LOVE?
THE PROBLEM THAT REMAINS IS SUMIRE -SAN.

SFX: FART
...WELL
SUMIRE-SAN SAID HE'D BE TAKING HIS TIME THINKING ABOUT IT TOO.
I HATE IT WHEN I PASS GAS AT A TIME LIKE THIS!!
SFX: SWATTING BACK AND FORTH
And yet...
IT STILL INKS

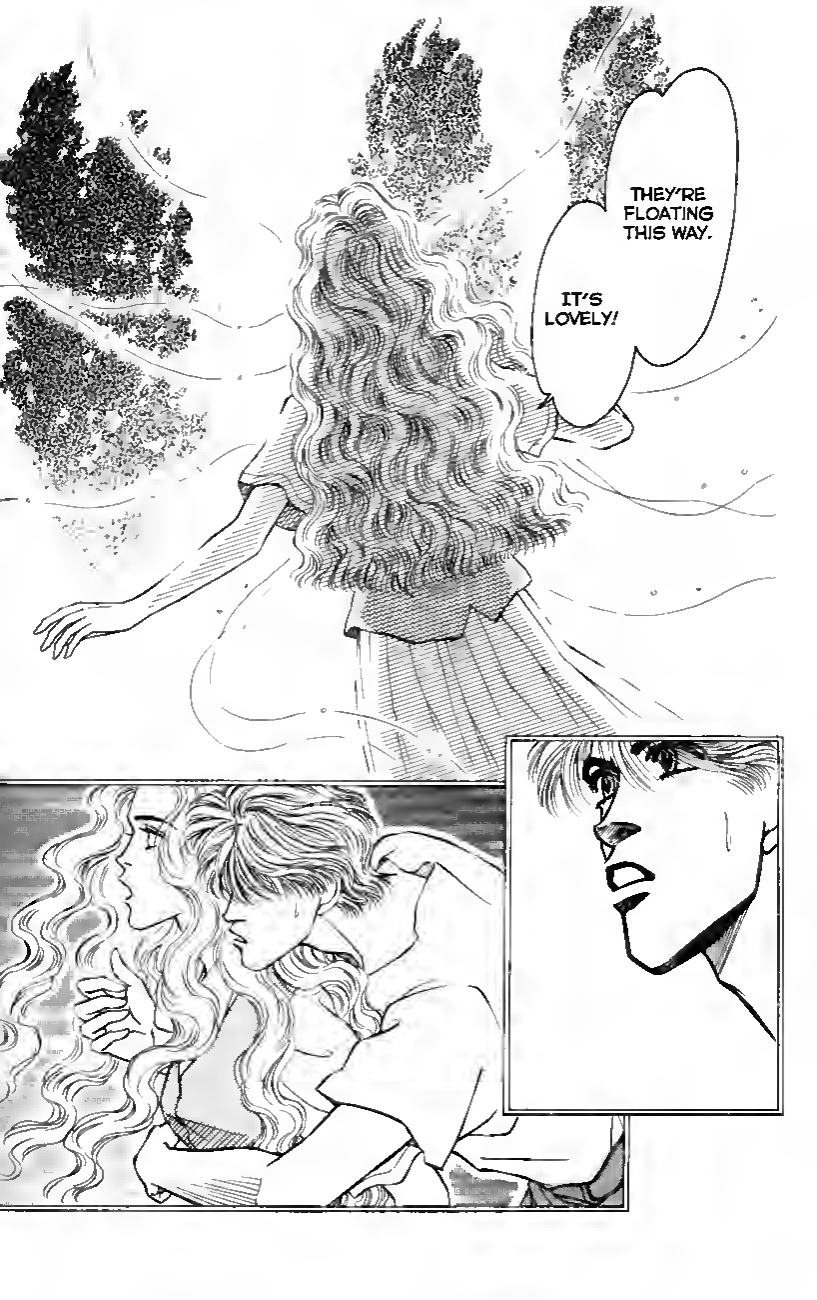

YOU CAN'T COME IN RIGHT NOW!!
What's with the festival dance?
looks good already.
Being forced to forget
Because one loves what one loves,
it can't be helped.
I'M OKAY!!
YOUR FACE IS BURNING.
I LOVE BOTH SUMIRE AND YURI.
I WILL ABSOLUTELY NEVER SHOW THAT

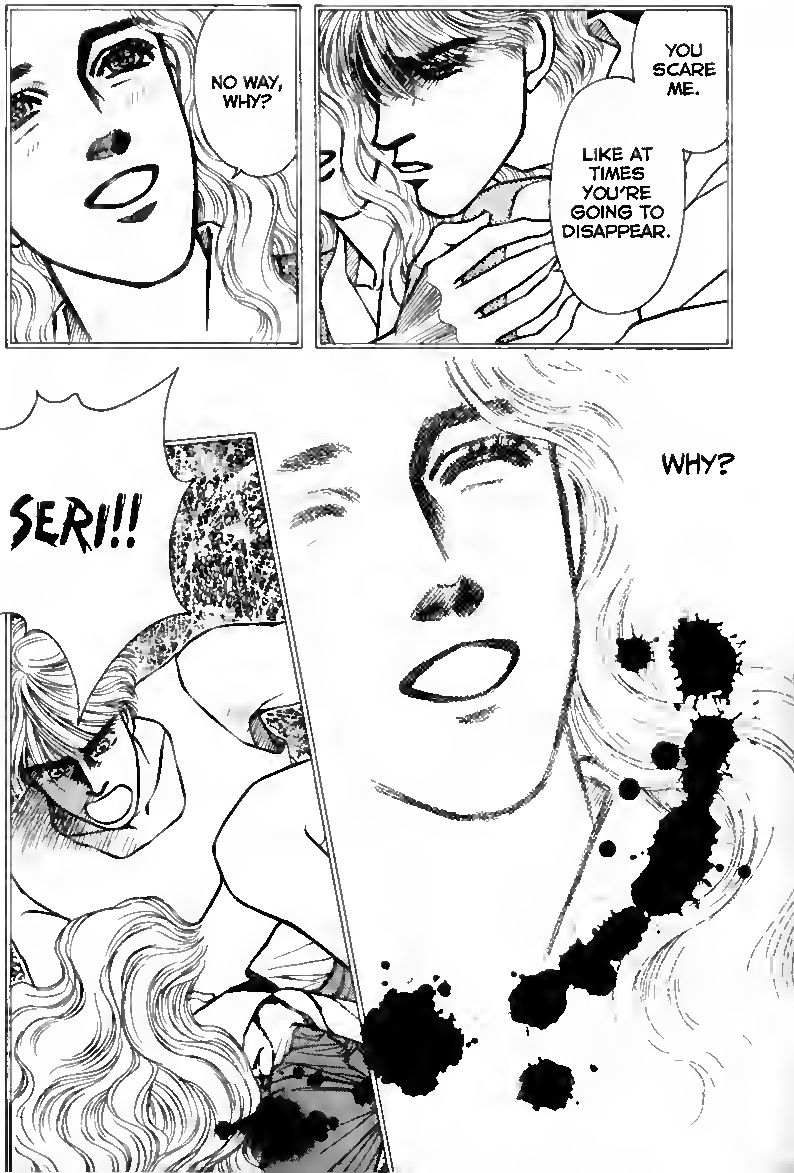
SFX STAND UP (AND UP)
IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL YOU WANT?
I'M GOING OUT TO BUY PROVISIONS.
NEKO-KICHI-SAAAN
I'LL GO TOO.
SFX: SHAWA SHAWA (CICADAS SINGING)
YOU OKAY WITHOUT SLEEP?
WE GOT DONE WITH OUR WORK QUICK.
AND I OUGHT TO SEE SUNLIGHT ONCE IN A WHILE.
OH, THE CICADAS ARE SINGING.

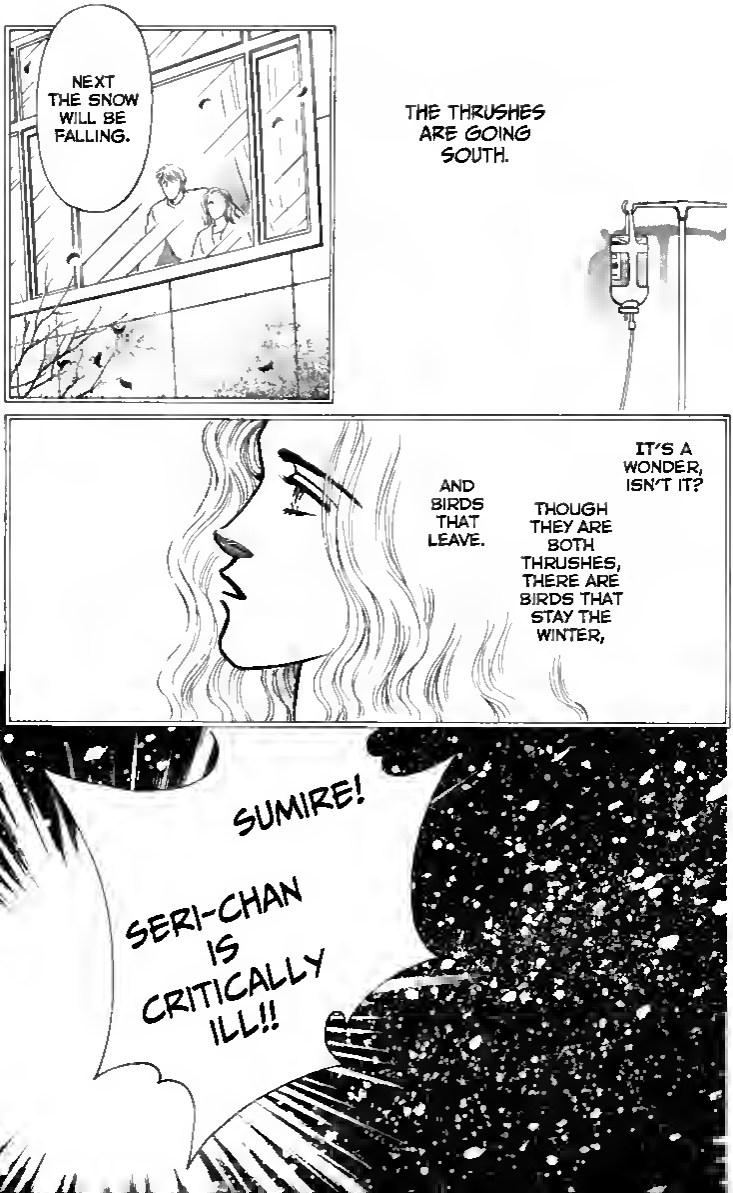
SFX: SHAWAWAWA... CICADAS SINGING
SAPPORO'S CICADAS HAVE A CURIOUS VOICE.
THAT SO?
AT FIRST, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS THE SONG OF THE CICADAS.
IT SEEMED LIKE THE ECHOES OF ALARMS SOUNDING FAR, FAR AWAY,
LIKE DROPS OF LIGHT RUBBING AGAINST EACH OTHER.
CERTAINLY, THEY AREN'T AS TENACIOUS AS THE LARGE BROWN CICADA OR THE ROBUST CICADA.
EVEN THOUGH THEY CRY AS IF THEY WERE WORKING TOGETHER,
THEY DON'T FEEL "NOISY", DO THEY?

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAME OUT IN GOOD SPIRITS.
EH?
THOUGH FROM THE BEGINNING OF SPRING YOU HAD SEEMED SOMEHOW DEPRESSED,
YOUR FACE HAS LIT UP.
IT'S GOOD IT DID.
YOUR SMILE WARMS EVERYTHING AROUND YOU.
TH... THANK YOU.
Watch ouuut!
tip over...
Yeah, the light is piercing

LOOK!
THE POPLAR TREES ARE CASTING SO MUCH FLUFF.


THEY'RE FLOATING THIS WAY.
IT'S LOVELY!


NO WAY, WHY?
YOU SCARE ME.
LIKE AT TIMES YOU'RE GOING TO DISAPPEAR.
SERI!!
WHY?

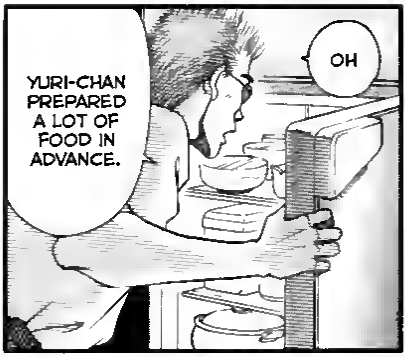

NEXT THE SNOW WILL BE FALLING.
THE THRUSHES ARE GOING SOUTH.
IT'S A WONDER, ISN'T IT?
THOUGH THEY ARE BOTH THRUSHES, THERE ARE BIRDS THAT STAY THE WINTER,
AND BIRDS THAT LEAVE.
SUMIRE!
SERI-CHAN IS CRITICALLY ILL!!

YOU MAY COME TO LOVE ANOTHER PERSON.
BUT NEVER FORGET ME.
YOU WILL FOREVER LOVE ME TOO...

EVEN THOUGH I LOVE YOU,
SO MUCH MY HEART IS BURSTING,
BUT EVEN SO

BUT
EVEN
SO...

AHHH... I SLEPT GOOD.


OH
YURI-CHAN PREPARED A LOT OF FOOD IN ADVANCE.

FROM WHICH SHOULD I EAT...?

WHY ARE YOU IN SOMEBODY'S HOUSE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I WANT TO HAVE A DRINK WITH YOU.
HOW WAS IT YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH HUYOU?
IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
BUT YOUR FIRST LOVE WAS VERY STRONG WAS IT NOT?
TO WHERE I DIDN'T WANT TO LOVE AGAIN.

I'M DIFFER-ENT FROM YOU.
SHE LOATHED ME.
FORTUNATELY, MY FIRST LOVE HAS FADED AWAY.
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S THE BEST OF CONDITIONS.
SHE HAS DEFINITELY FALLEN FOR YOU, ALONG WITH YOUR DEAD LOVER.
SHE'S A WORTHY GIRL TO TRY AND DATE.
BUT AS FOR YURI,
BECAUSE YOU'RE SERIOUS.
EVEN SO, I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'LL SAY "YES, IS THAT SO?" AND GO WITH THE FLOW.

SERI,
I WANT TO SAY,
"IF I DIE, I DON'T WANT YOU TO LOVE ANOTHER."
I THINK, WOULD NO DOUBT HAVE REGRETS.
I WANTED TO SAY IT.
I WANTED SO MUCH TO CRY IT ALOUD.
I'M ASHAMED I WANTED TO SAY IT.
SO SHE SAID NOT TO FORGET HER
EVEN IF YOU COME TO LOVE ANOTHER
SET ASIDE A BIT FOR ME, SHE SAID.
SO SWEET.
IT WAS PITIFUL TO SEE.

I WANT TO SHOUT OUT LOUD
"THIS IS HOW I LOVE YOU!"
THOUGH I CAN NO LONGER SEE HER
I WANT TO SEE HER. I WANT TO SEE HER.
...EVEN SO
IN THE END, SERI?
YURI?
OR EVEN MYSELF?
MY FEELINGS TOWARDS SERI,
THOUGH THEY ARE BURIED DEEPLY IN MY HEART,
WHO AM I BETRAYING?

YOU AREN'T BETRAYING ANYBODY.
YOU'RE DOING THE BEST YOU CAN.
AS FOR THE REST, DON'T ASK IT OF YOURSELF.
IF SERI WERE ALIVE,
THERE IS NO WAY
YOU WOULD BE DRAWN TO YURI.
THERE IS ONLY ONE THING
CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD HERE.

I CAN'T ACCEPT THINGS LIKE THAT!
THIS, WELL SERI SIMPLY DIED.
IF I SO MUCH AS LOOK AT YURI, I'M ALL SET TO INSULT HER!
IF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS TRUE, IT IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER NOTICED.
BESIDES, I'M STILL
I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH SERI AND CRY OVER HER.
...ONLY I REMAINED LIVING.
DAMN IT.
FOR THAT REASON,

ACCEPT HELP!
FROM YURI-CHAN.
THAT GIRL WILL SAVE YOU,
AND YOUR LOVER TOO.

SHE DOES NOT BELIEVE HERSELF INSULTED.
IN THAT WAY SHE BLAMES HERSELF,
BECAUSE YOU'VE DECIDED THERE IS ONLY ONE SPECIAL PLACE IN YOUR HEART.
BUT, LONG AGO SHE TOOK YOUR LOVER BY THE HAND AND WALKS WITH HER.
SO ACCEPT HER WAITING FOR YOU.
UNTIL YOUR TEARS HAVE DRIED,
YURI-CHAN WILL WAIT FOR YOU.

ZZZ...
NO!

I CAME TO SEE YOUR FACE.
I THOUGHT IT WAS A DREAM...
YOU SUR-PRISED ME.
WAIT
I'LL TURN ON THE LIGHT NOW.

WHAT DO I DO
IF MY TEARS NEVER DRY UP?
GATHER THEM TOGETHER AND GO SWIMMING.
THEN YOU CAN CRY YOUR WHOLE LIFE LONG.
THERE WILL NEVER BE ENOUGH FOR THAT.
NOT EVEN A WHOLE LIFE WOULD SUFFICE.
Haha

ON THE OTHER HAND,
WILL YOU ACCEPT SUCH LOVE AS THERE IS?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT?
OR ARE YOU INFINITELY SOFT-HEARTED!?
BUT HAVEN'T I BEEN SAYING THAT FROM THE VERY START?
I SAID I WAS PERFECTLY HAPPY WITH A ONE-SIDED LOVE.

IT MAY BE THAT I HAVE BEEN SAVED.
SUMIRE -SAN?
I CAN'T TELL HER TO WAIT FOR ME.
BUT

THANK YOU

SFX ROAR...
LET'S SEE, AFTER I GO TO THE BANK..
IT'S SUMIRE-SAN!

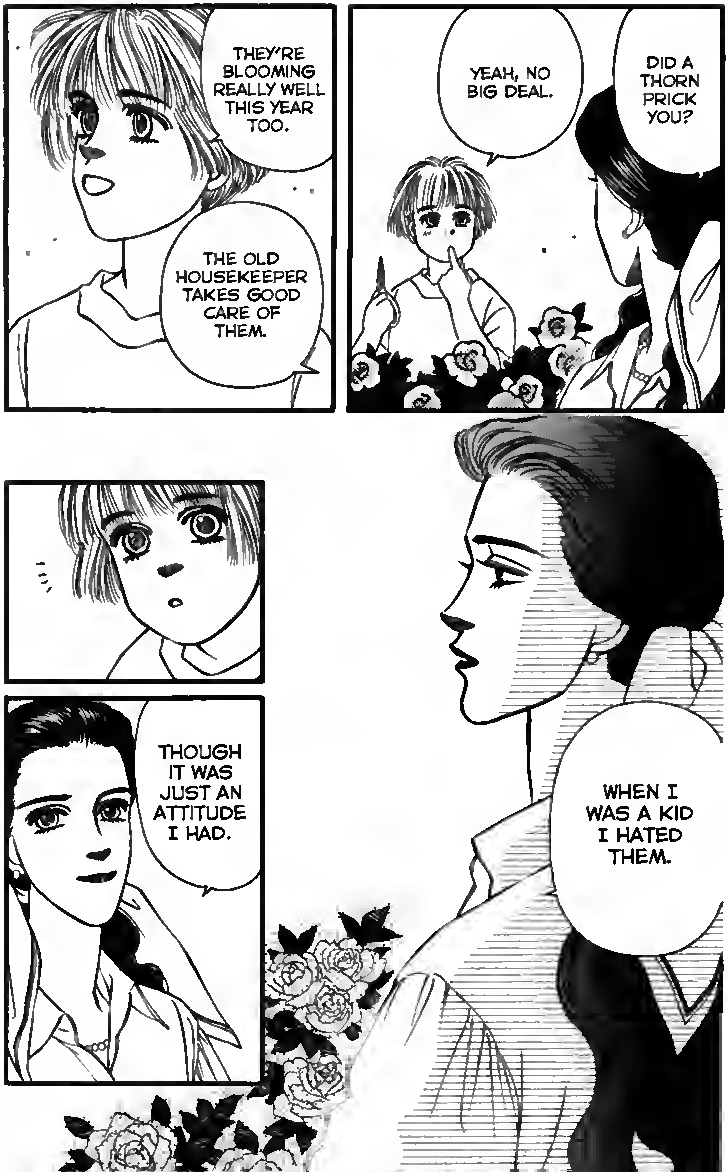
SFX BADUMP
ドキン
WHOA, SHOULD I GET OFF?
SEEING ...
BEING SEEN!?
FROM SUCH A DISTANCE,
CAN HE SEE ME INSIDE THE BUS!?

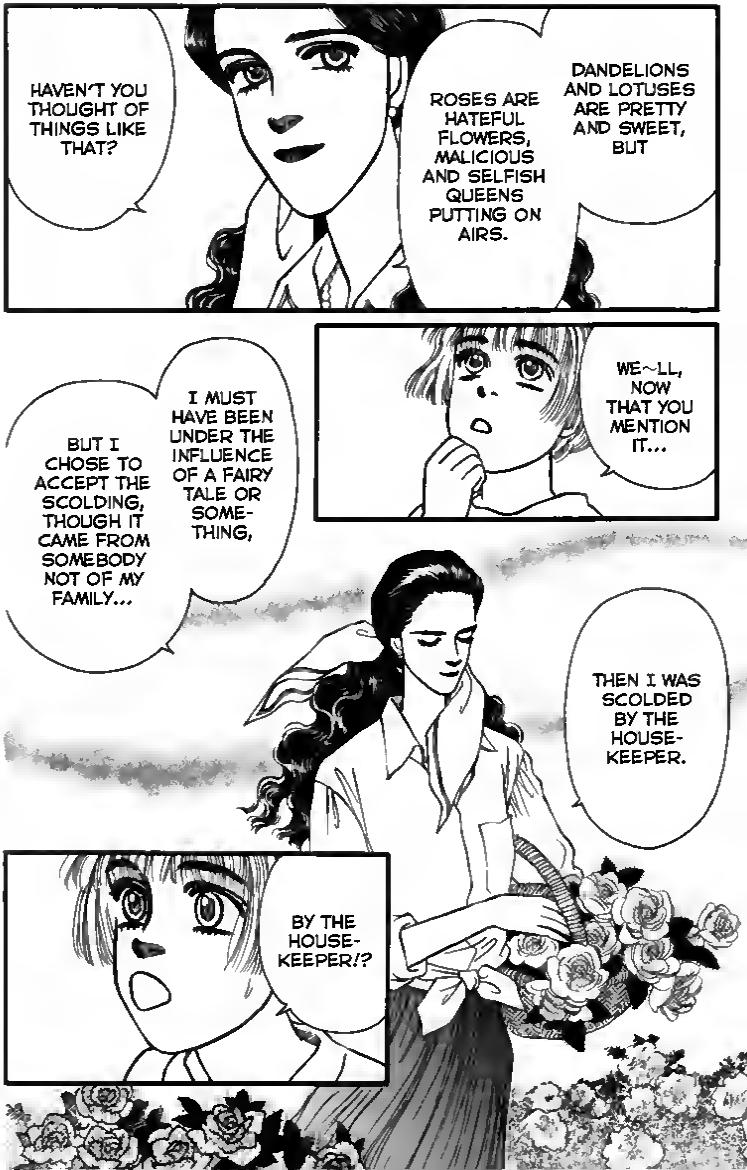
CHAPTER 51 - CRYING UNTIL DRY - THE END

SCANLATION BY RPAPO

CHAPTER 52
THE ROSE YOU PLANTED

OW!

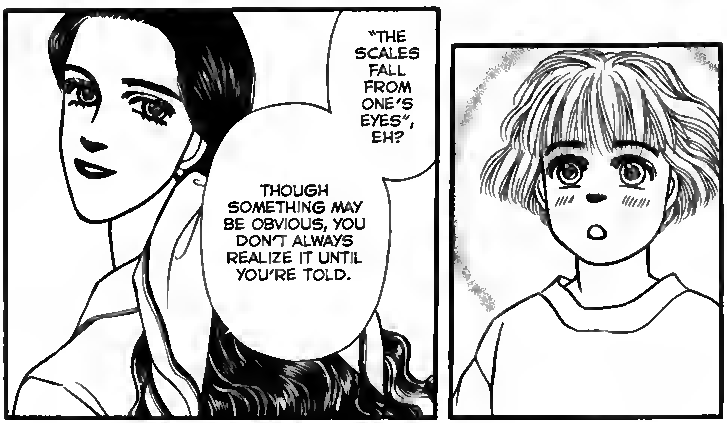

THEY'RE BLOOMING REALLY WELL THIS YEAR TOO.
THE OLD HOUSEKEEPER TAKES GOOD CARE OF THEM.
DID A THORN PRICK YOU?
YEAH, NO BIG DEAL.
WHEN I WAS A KID I HATED THEM.
THOUGH IT WAS JUST AN ATTITUDE I HAD.

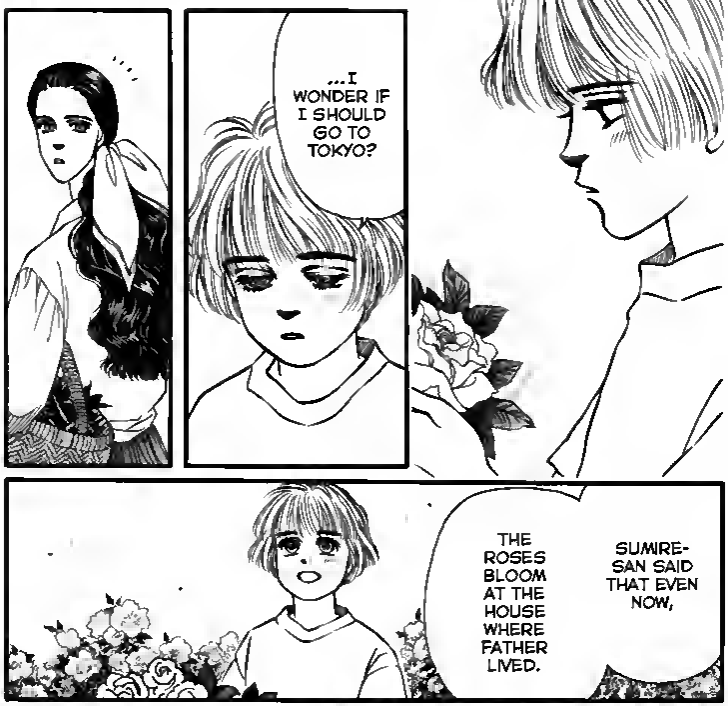

HAVEN'T YOU THOUGHT OF THINGS LIKE THAT?
ROSES ARE HATEFUL FLOWERS, MALICIOUS AND SELFISH QUEENS PUTTING ON AIRS.
DANDELIONS AND LOTUSES ARE PRETTY AND SWEET, BUT
WE~LL, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
I MUST HAVE BEEN UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A FAIRY TALE OR SOME-THING,
BUT I CHOSE TO ACCEPT THE SCOLDING, THOUGH IT CAME FROM SOMEBODY NOT OF MY FAMILY...
THEN I WAS SCOLDED BY THE HOUSE-KEEPER.
BY THE HOUSE-KEEPER!?

IT WAS A DAY JUST LIKE TODAY.
THE ROSE IS A HATEFUL FLOWER, MAKING PEOPLE WORK SO HARD!
EVEN THOUGH THE FLOWERS OF THE FIELDS AND ROADSIDES BLOOM BEAUTIFULLY ALL BY THEMSELVES,
"ROSES" ARE OBVIOUSLY BEING CARED FOR, AND IT'S LIKE THEY'RE PUTTING ON AIRS.
IF YOU SAY THEY'RE 'OBVIOUSLY BEING CARED FOR',
THEN WHAT HAPPENS WITH CABBAGES AND TOMATOES?
AREN'T CABBAGES VEGETABLES?
VEGETABLES DON'T PUT ON AIRS!

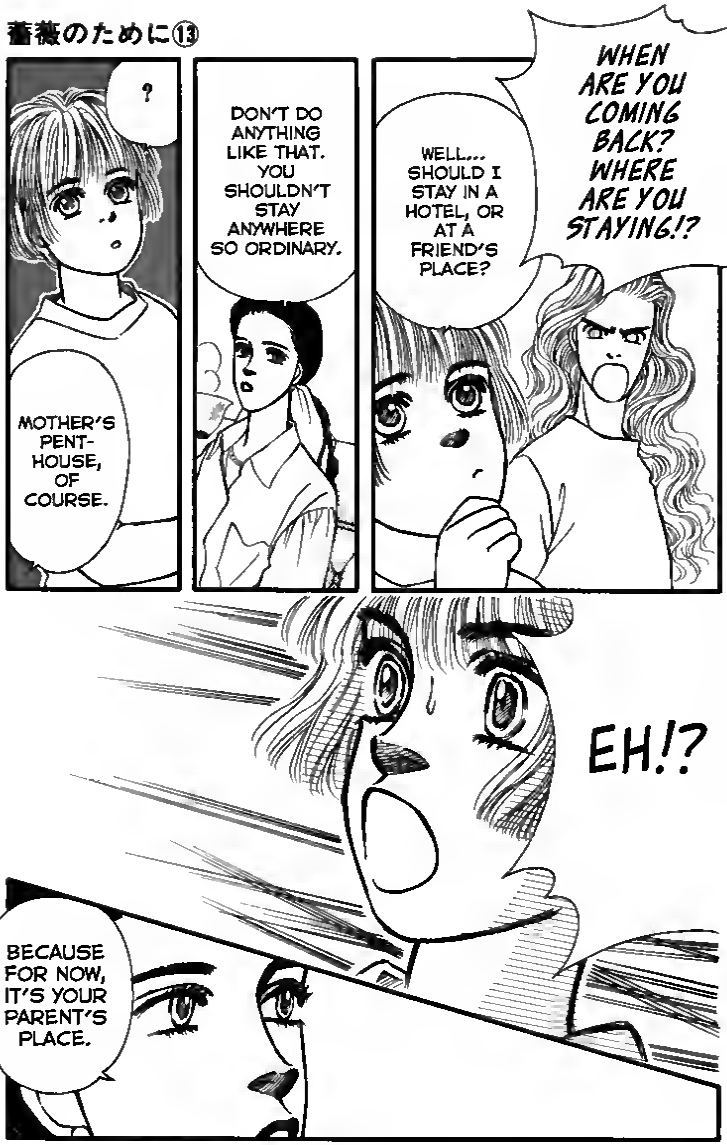
NEITHER VEGETABLES NOR FLOWERS ARE BRAGGARTS.
BOTH LOTUSES AND ROSES SIMPLY BLOOM ON THEIR OWN.
FOR YOU IN PARTICULAR, HUYOU-SAN,
TO HAVE SUCH UNWORTHY THOUGHTS, THAT THE FLOWERS OF A FLOWER SHOP,
BROUGHT FROM THE INNOCENCE OF THE FIELDS AND THE PLAINS, MIGHT HAVE SUCH TRAITS AS ARROGANCE?
THAT'S SIMPLY WRONG.

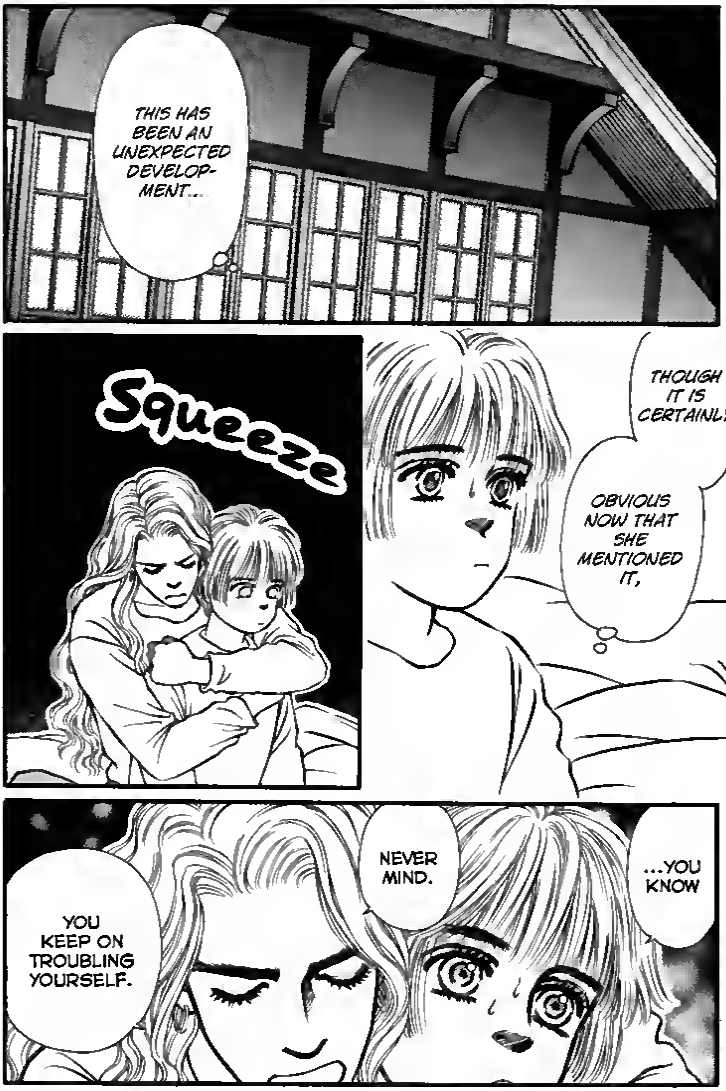
T/N CULTIVATED FIELDS, WILD PLAINS

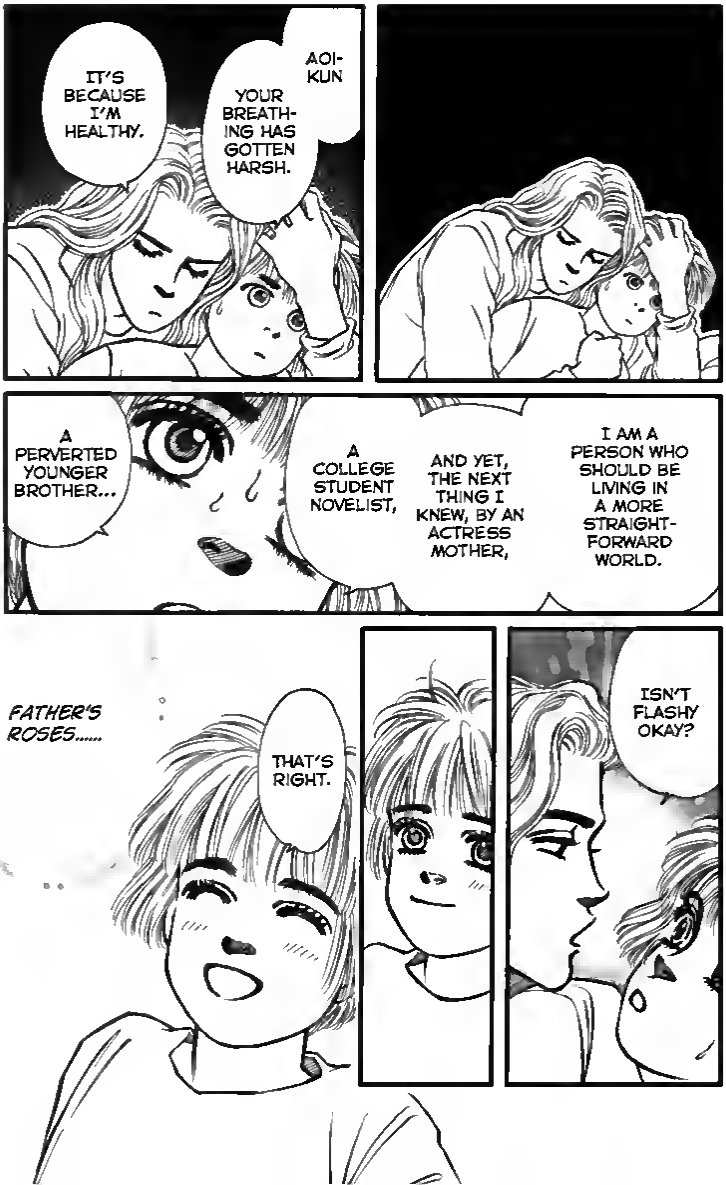



...I WONDER IF I SHOULD GO TO TOKYO?
SUMIRE-SAN SAID THAT EVEN NOW,
THE ROSES BLOOM AT THE HOUSE WHERE FATHER LIVED.
THEY MAY BE BLOOMING THIS YEAR TOO...

IT'S NOT TO SOME HOUSE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO BEFORE!?
YOU'RE GOING TO TOKYO!?
WHY ARE YOU UPSET?
JUST TAKE IT EASY. I WANT TO GO SEE THEM.
YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THE ROSES OF A HOUSE YOU CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER, NOW THAT'S FUNNY!


WHEN ARE YOU COMING BACK? WHERE ARE YOU STAYING!?
WELL... SHOULD I STAY IN A HOTEL, OR AT A FRIEND'S PLACE?
DON'T DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT. YOU SHOULDN'T STAY ANYWHERE SO ORDINARY.
?
MOTHER'S PENT-HOUSE, OF COURSE.
EH!?
BECAUSE FOR NOW, IT'S YOUR PARENT'S PLACE.

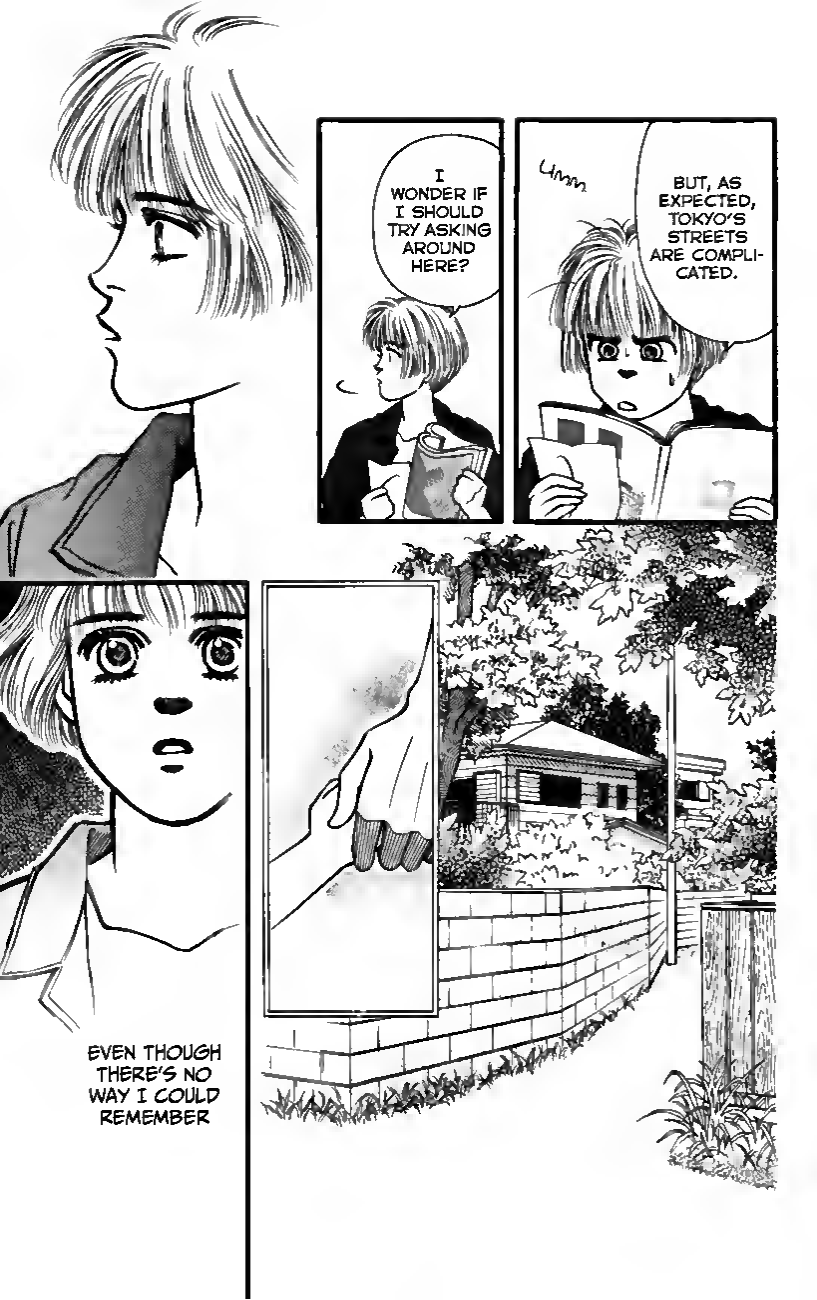

THIS HAS BEEN AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOP-MENT...
Squeeze
THOUGH IT IS CERTAINLY
OBVIOUS NOW THAT SHE MENTIONED IT,
...YOU KNOW
NEVER MIND.
YOU KEEP ON TROUBLING YOURSELF.


AOI-KUN
YOUR BREATH-ING HAS GOTTEN HARSH.
IT'S BECAUSE I'M HEALTHY.
I AM A PERSON WHO SHOULD BE LIVING IN A MORE STRAIGHT-FORWARD WORLD.
AND YET, THE NEXT THING I KNEW, BY AN ACTRESS MOTHER,
A COLLEGE STUDENT NOVELIST,
A PERVERTED YOUNGER BROTHER...
ISN'T FLASHY OKAY?
THAT'S RIGHT.
FATHER'S ROSES.....

SFX: HANGING UP PHONE
ガチャー
sigh...
MOTHER'S NOT HOME, OF COURSE.
STAY THE NIGHT AT A HOTEL.

TOKYO

I WONDER IF I REALLY WAS RAISED IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
MAPS
WOW...
THERE'S SURE A LOT OF GREENERY AROUND HERE.

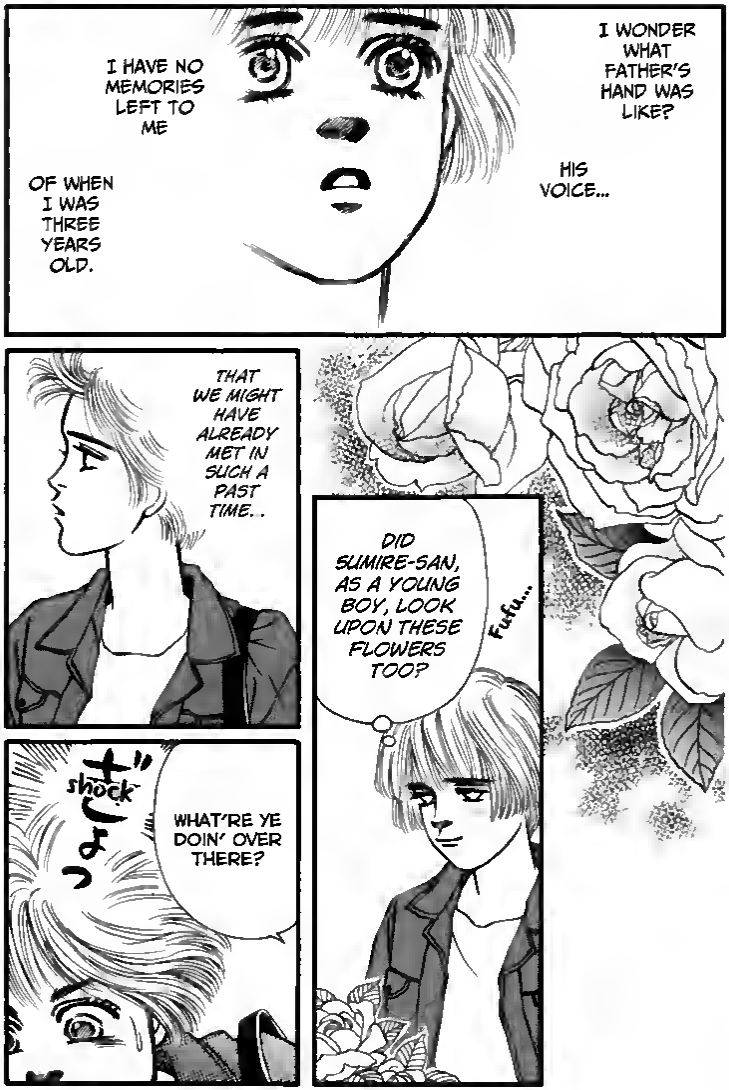

I WONDER IF I SHOULD TRY ASKING AROUND HERE?
Umm
BUT, AS EXPECTED, TOKYO'S STREETS ARE COMPLICATED.
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO WAY I COULD REMEMBER

EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW SUCH STREETS AS THESE
BUT MY BEATING HEART IS SAYING "THIS IS THE PLACE!"
IT SAYS "THIS IS THE PLACE!"

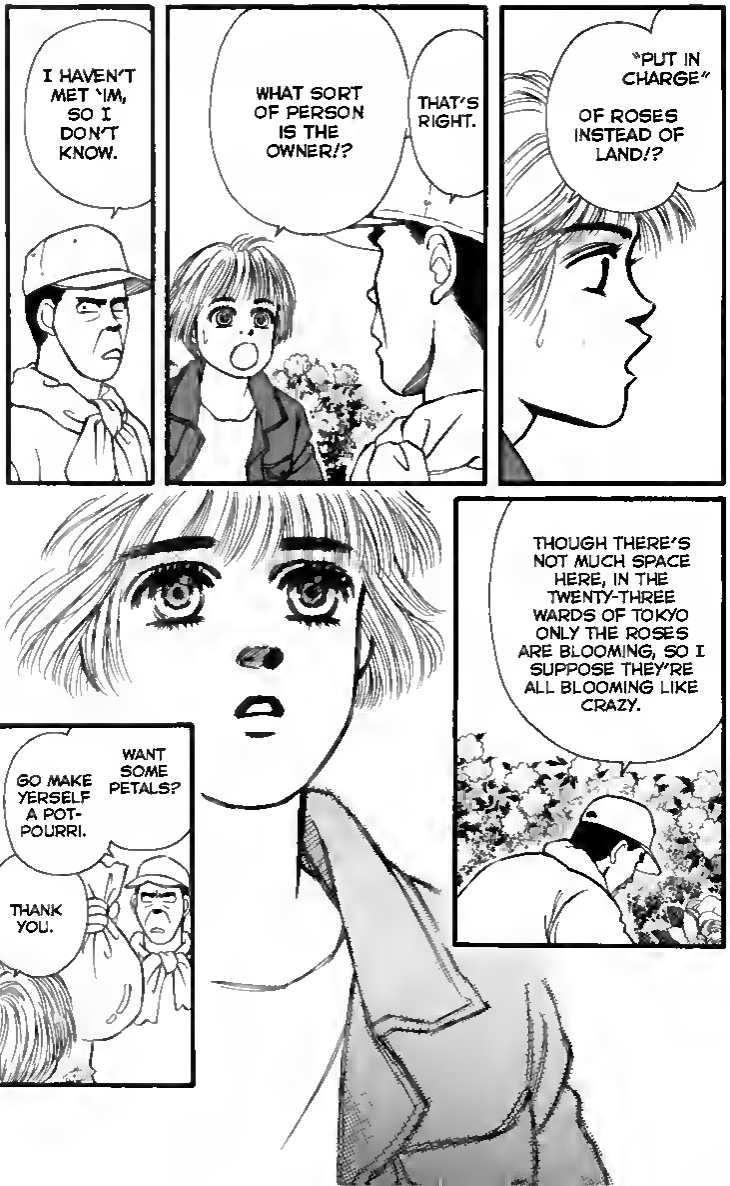
The ornamental trees
The old houses, the new houses
The gateposts
The breeze
The light

The smell

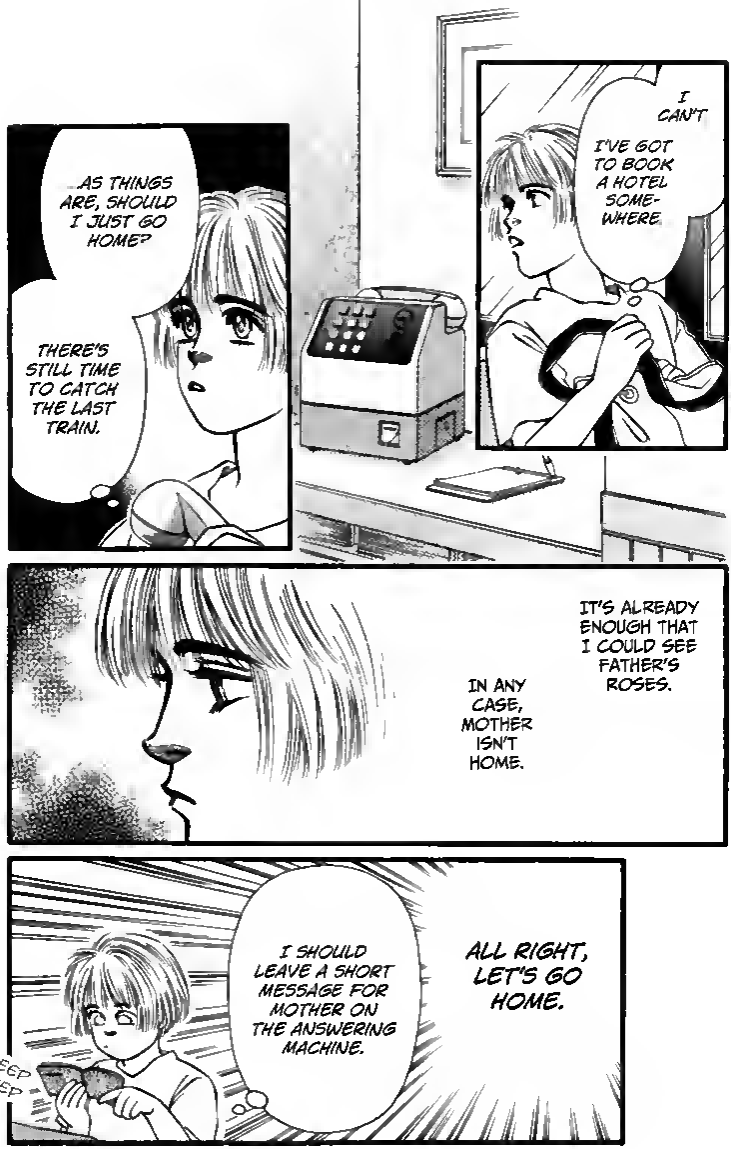
THAT NINETEEN YEARS AGO,
I WALKED WITH FATHER!?
WAS IT TRULY HERE...
ON THIS VERY STREET HERE NOW,


I WONDER WHAT FATHER'S HAND WAS LIKE?
HIS VOICE...
I HAVE NO MEMORIES LEFT TO ME
OF WHEN I WAS THREE YEARS OLD.
THAT WE MIGHT HAVE ALREADY MET IN SUCH A PAST TIME..
Fufu...
DID SUMIRE-SAN, AS A YOUNG BOY, LOOK UPON THESE FLOWERS TOO?
shock
WHAT'RE YE DOIN' OVER THERE?

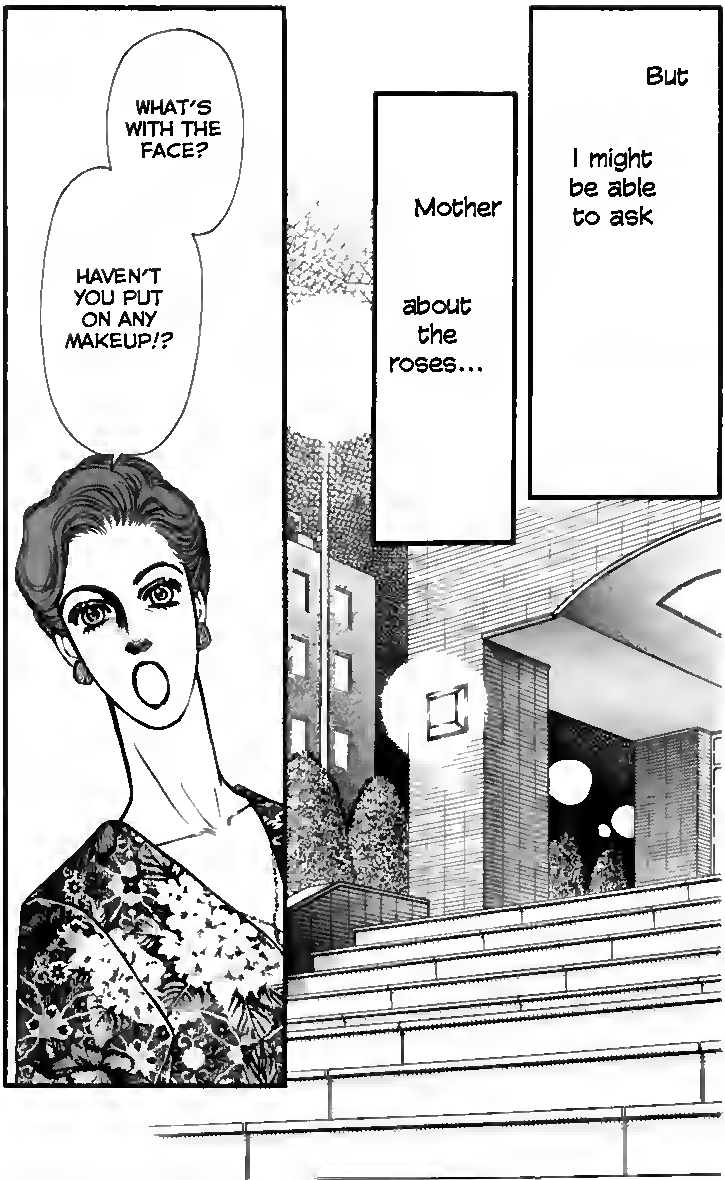
EXCUSE ME! UMM...
IT'S BECAUSE I LIVED HERE A LONG TIME AGO.
SOMEBODY SPOTTED ME!?
THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY! YOU CAN'T JUST WALTZ IN!
IS THIS PLACE YOURS, SIR?
IT'S BECAUSE I'D HEARD THAT EVEN THOUGH THE HOUSE WAS GONE, THE ROSES WERE STILL HERE.
I AM A GARDENER.
I'VE BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF THE ROSES ONLY.
EH!?


I HAVEN'T MET 'IM, SO I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT SORT OF PERSON IS THE OWNER!?
THAT'S RIGHT.
"PUT IN CHARGE" OF ROSES INSTEAD OF LAND!?
THOUGH THERE'S NOT MUCH SPACE HERE, IN THE TWENTY-THREE WARDS OF TOKYO ONLY THE ROSES ARE BLOOMING, SO I SUPPOSE THEY'RE ALL BLOOMING LIKE CRAZY.
WANT SOME PETALS?
GO MAKE YERSELF A POT-POURRI.
THANK YOU.

THE HOUSEKEEPER SAID THEY WERE LIVING IN A RENTED HOUSE.
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS?
I WONDER IF THE PERSON IS SOMEHOW RELATED TO FATHER?
IN THAT CASE, THEN...


I CAN'T
I'VE GOT TO BOOK A HOTEL SOME-WHERE.
...AS THINGS ARE, SHOULD I JUST GO HOME?
THERE'S STILL TIME TO CATCH THE LAST TRAIN.
IT'S ALREADY ENOUGH THAT I COULD SEE FATHER'S ROSES.
IN ANY CASE, MOTHER ISN'T HOME.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO HOME.
I SHOULD LEAVE A SHORT MESSAGE FOR MOTHER ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE.
BEEP BEEP

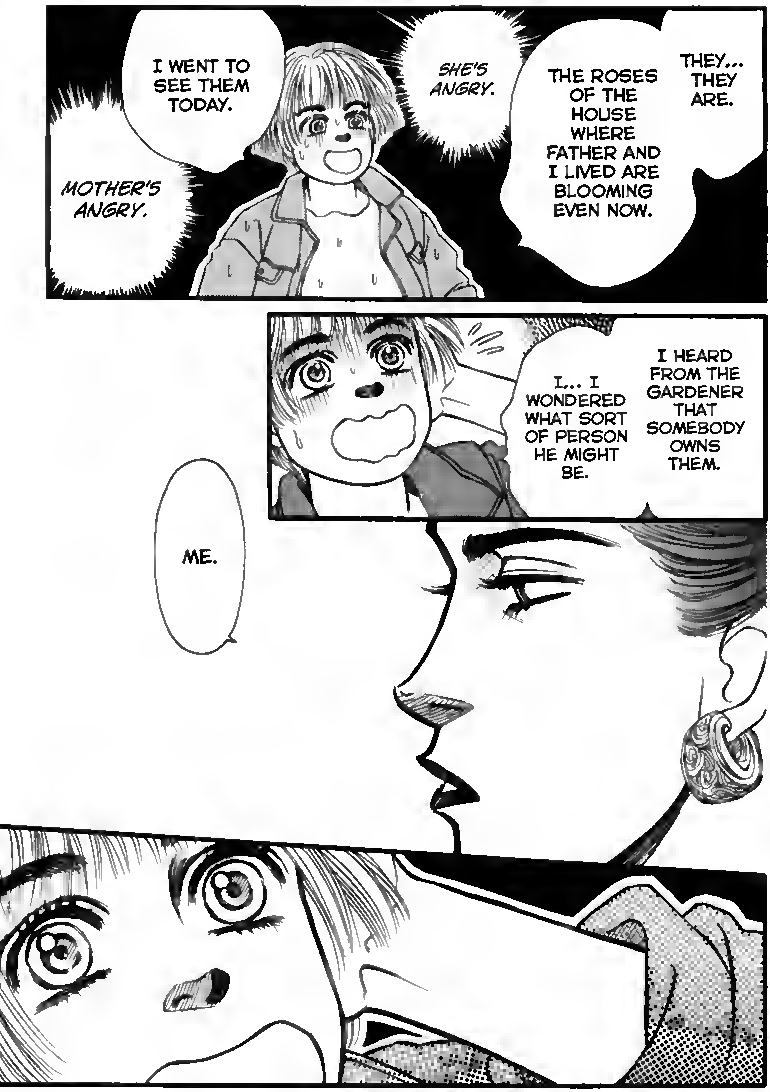
Mother was there.
Clack
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9
* 0 #
WHY ARE YOU IN TOKYO?
THIS IS PERFECT.
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TAKE TO OUR HOUSE-KEEPER.
Gloom...
I'M BUMMED OUT.
THOUGH I DON'T HATE MY MOTHER,
WELL MAYBE A LITTLE
I FEEL SO TENSE WHEN WE MEET.
AS ALWAYS, IT OPENS UP WOUNDS.


But
I might be able to ask
Mother
about the roses...
WHAT'S WITH THE FACE?
HAVEN'T YOU PUT ON ANY MAKEUP!?

HEY, MOTHER.
But you expected that...
DO YOU OFTEN WALK AROUND OUTSIDE WITH YOUR FACE BARE LIKE THAT!?
THIS IS A TOP FLOOR APART-MENT, ISN'T IT?
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY
TREES GROWING OUTSIDE THE WINDOW?
BECAUSE I MADE A GARDEN ON THE ROOF.
THE OWNER OF THIS APARTMENT BUILDING IS ME.
SHE LIVES IN AN AWESOME PLACE...

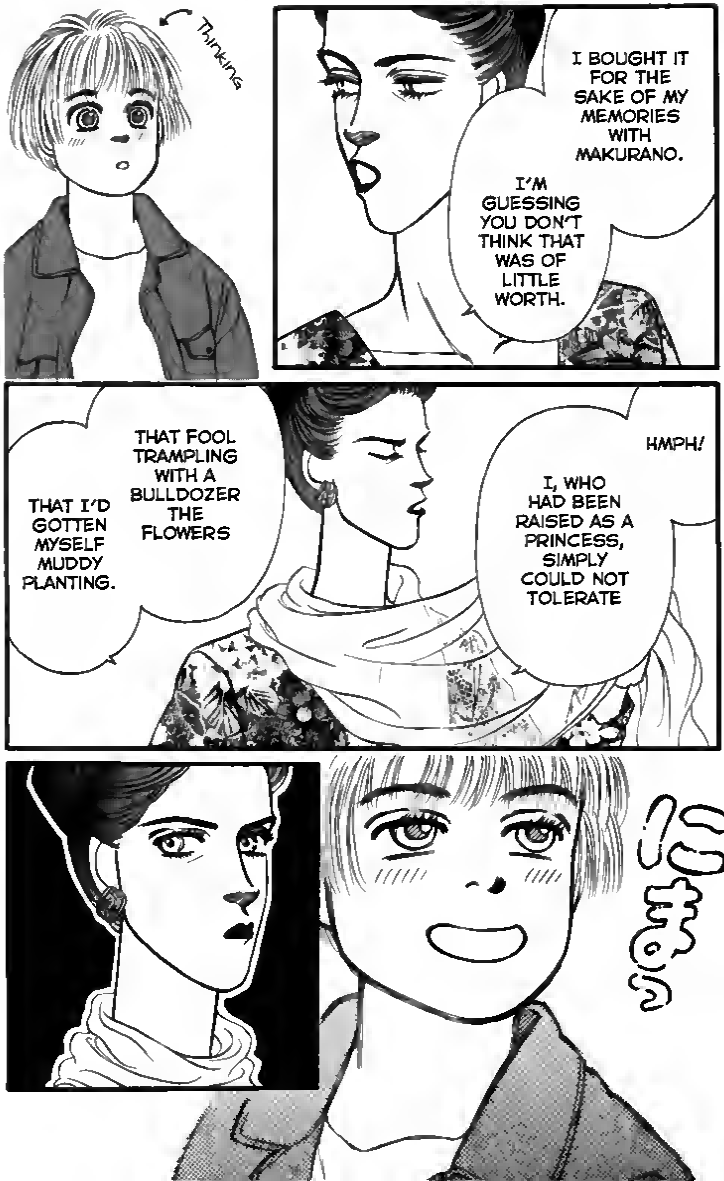
SO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHERE ARE YOU STAYING?
YEAH, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE TO MAKE THE LAST TRAIN.
WELL, FIND YOURSELF A GUEST ROOM, OKAY?
FIND...?
BECAUSE I'VE GOT LOTS OF ROOMS.
THIS PACKAGE IS WHAT I WANT YOU TO TAKE TO OUR HOUSE-KEEPER.
BECAUSE I'LL BE GOING OUT NOW.
YOU'RE GOING OUT!?
Spill...
AH!

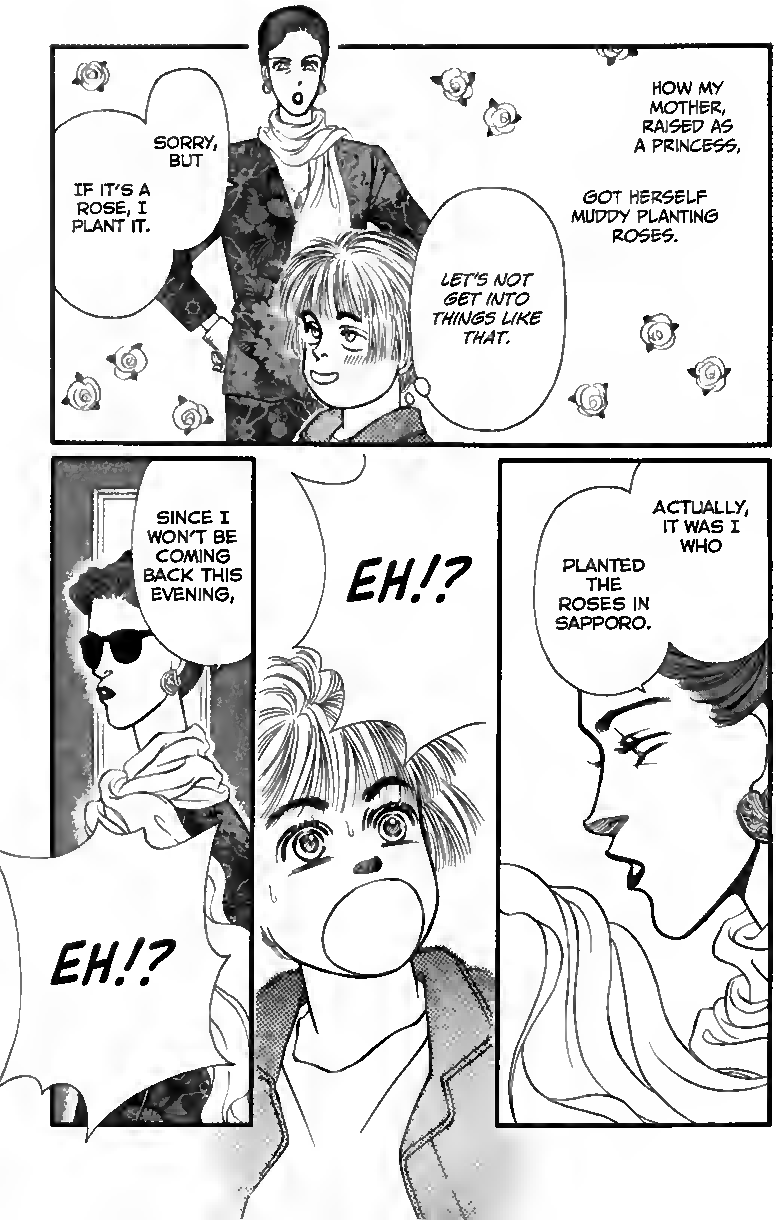
BUT, THESE, ARE THEY FATHER'S ROSES?
I'M SORRY!
DON'T MAKE A MESS!
"FATHER'S ROSES"
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHOA, IT MAY HAVE BEEN BETTER TO SAY NOTHING.


THEY... THEY ARE.
THE ROSES OF THE HOUSE WHERE FATHER AND I LIVED ARE BLOOMING EVEN NOW.
I HEARD FROM THE GARDENER THAT SOMEBODY OWNS THEM.
I... I WONDERED WHAT SORT OF PERSON HE MIGHT BE.
ME.
SHE'S ANGRY.
I WENT TO SEE THEM TODAY.
MOTHER'S ANGRY.

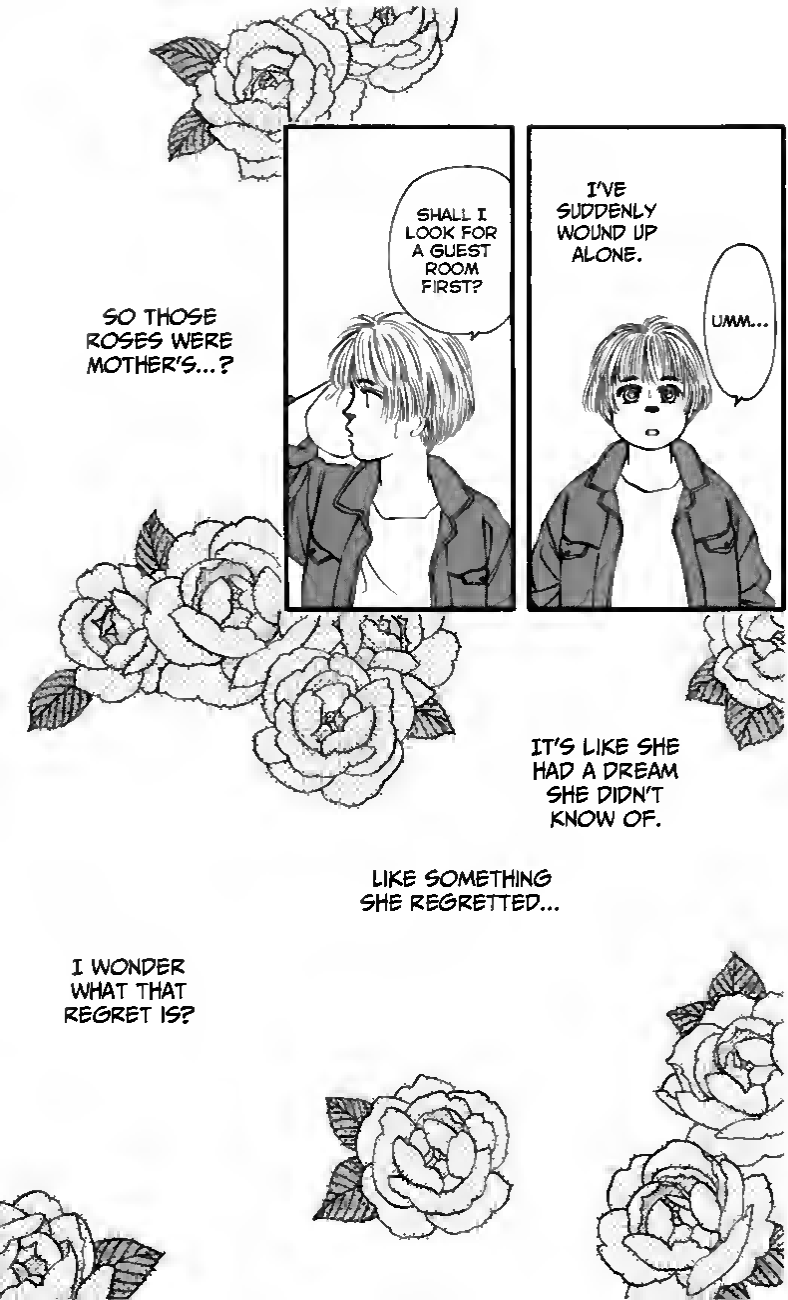
EH!?
DON'T BE SURPRISED.
BECAUSE IT WAS I WHO PLANTED THOSE ROSES.

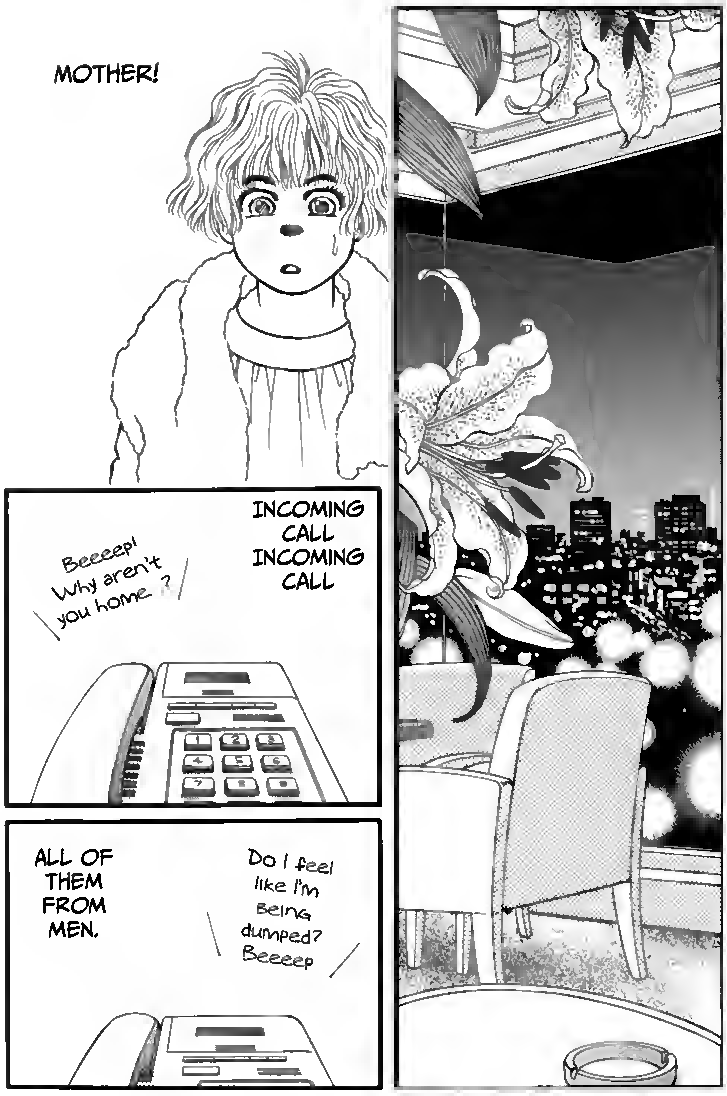
MOTHER LIKE THIS...
YES. AS SOON AS I STARTED LIVING WITH MAKURANO.
PLANTED? NO WAY. MOTHER, WITH YOUR OWN HANDS!?
WHEN MAKURANO DIED, I HEARD TALK THAT THE LANDLORD WAS GOING TO REBUILD THE HOUSE AS AN APARTMENT BUILDING, CRUSHING THE GARDEN.
I BOUGHT THE LAND AND EVERY-THING ON IT.
WHAT'S THAT LOOK?

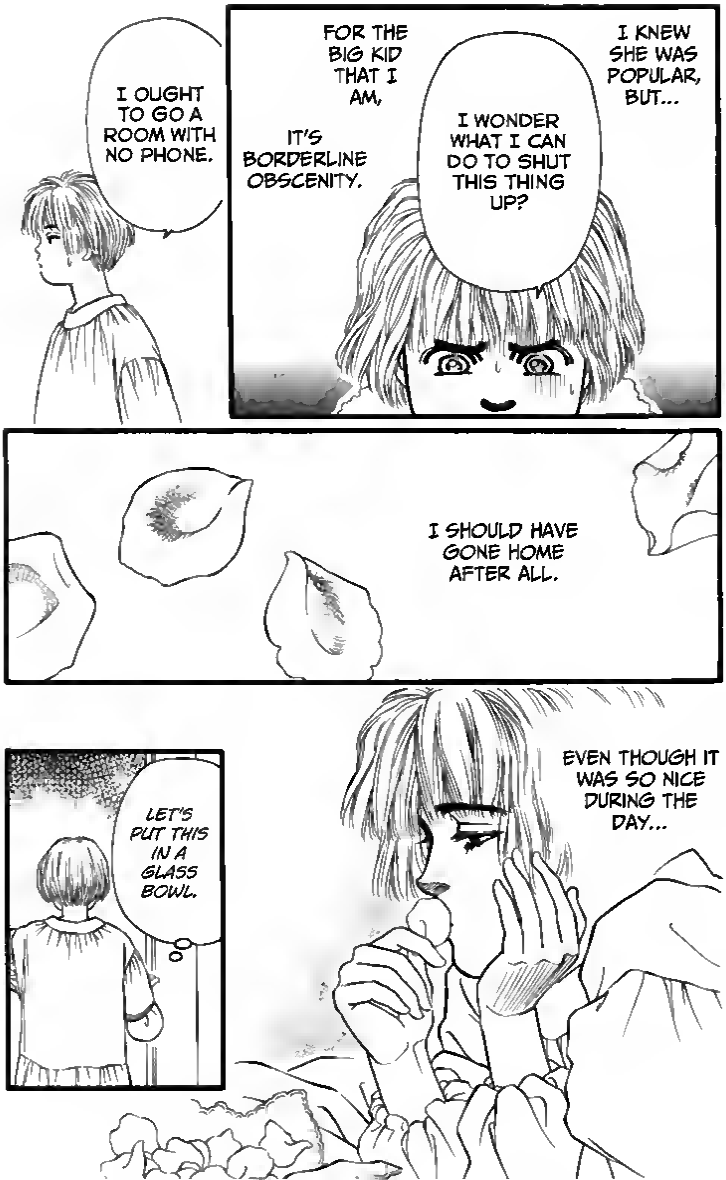

Thinking
I BOUGHT IT FOR THE SAKE OF MY MEMORIES WITH MAKURANO.
I'M GUESSING YOU DON'T THINK THAT WAS OF LITTLE WORTH.
HMPH!
I, WHO HAD BEEN RAISED AS A PRINCESS, SIMPLY COULD NOT TOLERATE
THAT FOOL TRAMPLING WITH A BULLDOZER THE FLOWERS
THAT I'D GOTTEN MYSELF MUDDY PLANTING.
ハッ!


HOW MY MOTHER, RAISED AS A PRINCESS,
GOT HERSELF MUDDY PLANTING ROSES.
LET'S NOT GET INTO THINGS LIKE THAT.
SORRY, BUT
IF IT'S A ROSE, I PLANT IT.
ACTUALLY, IT WAS I WHO
PLANTED THE ROSES IN SAPPORO.
EH!?
SINCE I WON'T BE COMING BACK THIS EVENING,
EH!?

DON'T TOUCH THE REST OF THE PLACE!
SLAM!


SO THOSE ROSES WERE MOTHER'S...?
SHALL I LOOK FOR A GUEST ROOM FIRST?
I'VE SUDDENLY WOUND UP ALONE.
UMM...
IT'S LIKE SHE HAD A DREAM SHE DIDN'T KNOW OF.
LIKE SOMETHING SHE REGRETTED...
I WONDER WHAT THAT REGRET IS?


MOTHER!
INCOMING CALL INCOMING CALL
Beeeep! Why aren't you home?
ALL OF THEM FROM MEN.
Do I feel like I'm being dumped? Beeeep

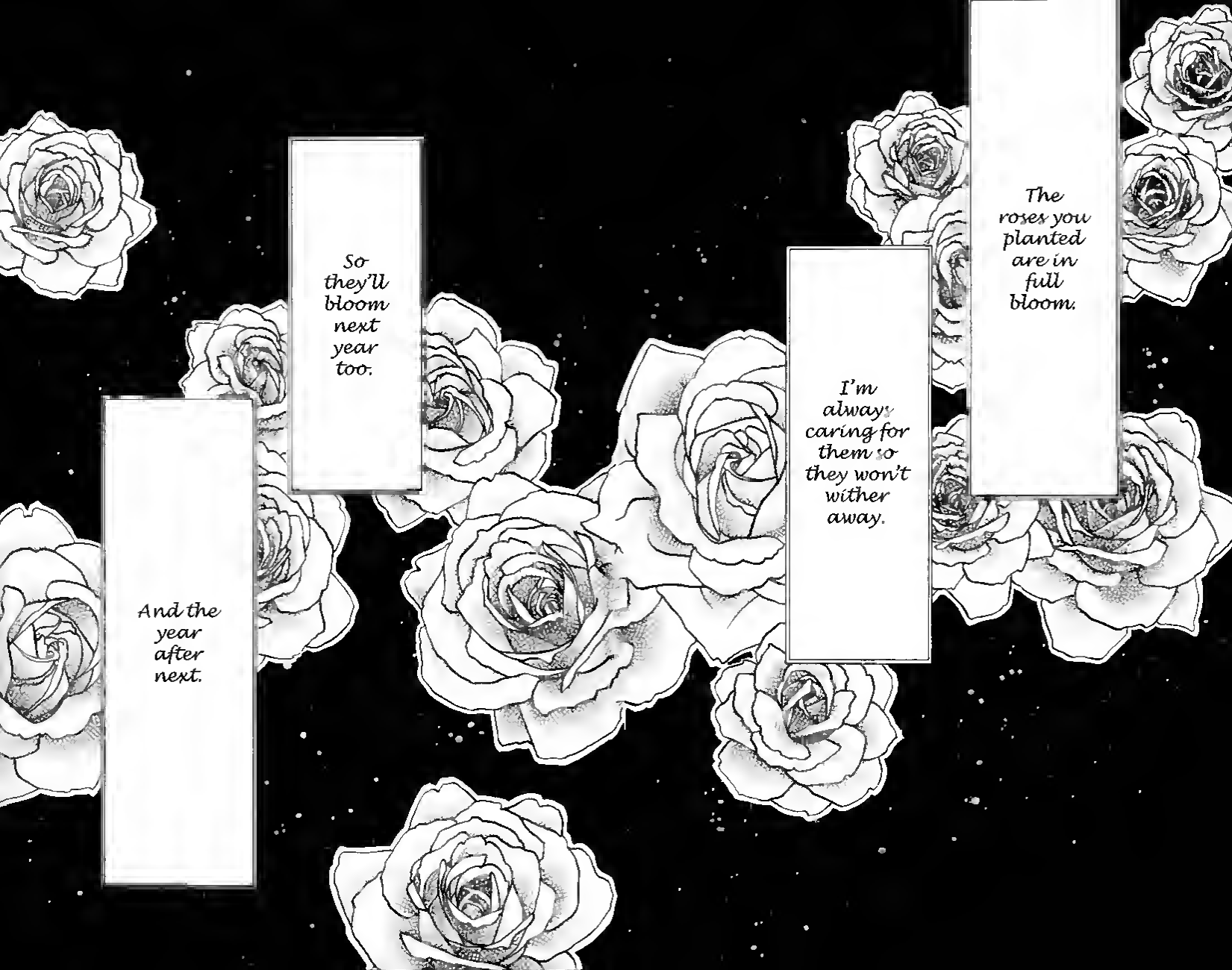

I OUGHT TO GO A ROOM WITH NO PHONE.
FOR THE BIG KID THAT I AM,
IT'S BORDERLINE OBSCENITY.
I WONDER WHAT I CAN DO TO SHUT THIS THING UP?
I KNEW SHE WAS POPULAR, BUT...
I SHOULD HAVE GONE HOME AFTER ALL.
LET'S PUT THIS IN A GLASS BOWL.
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS SO NICE DURING THE DAY...

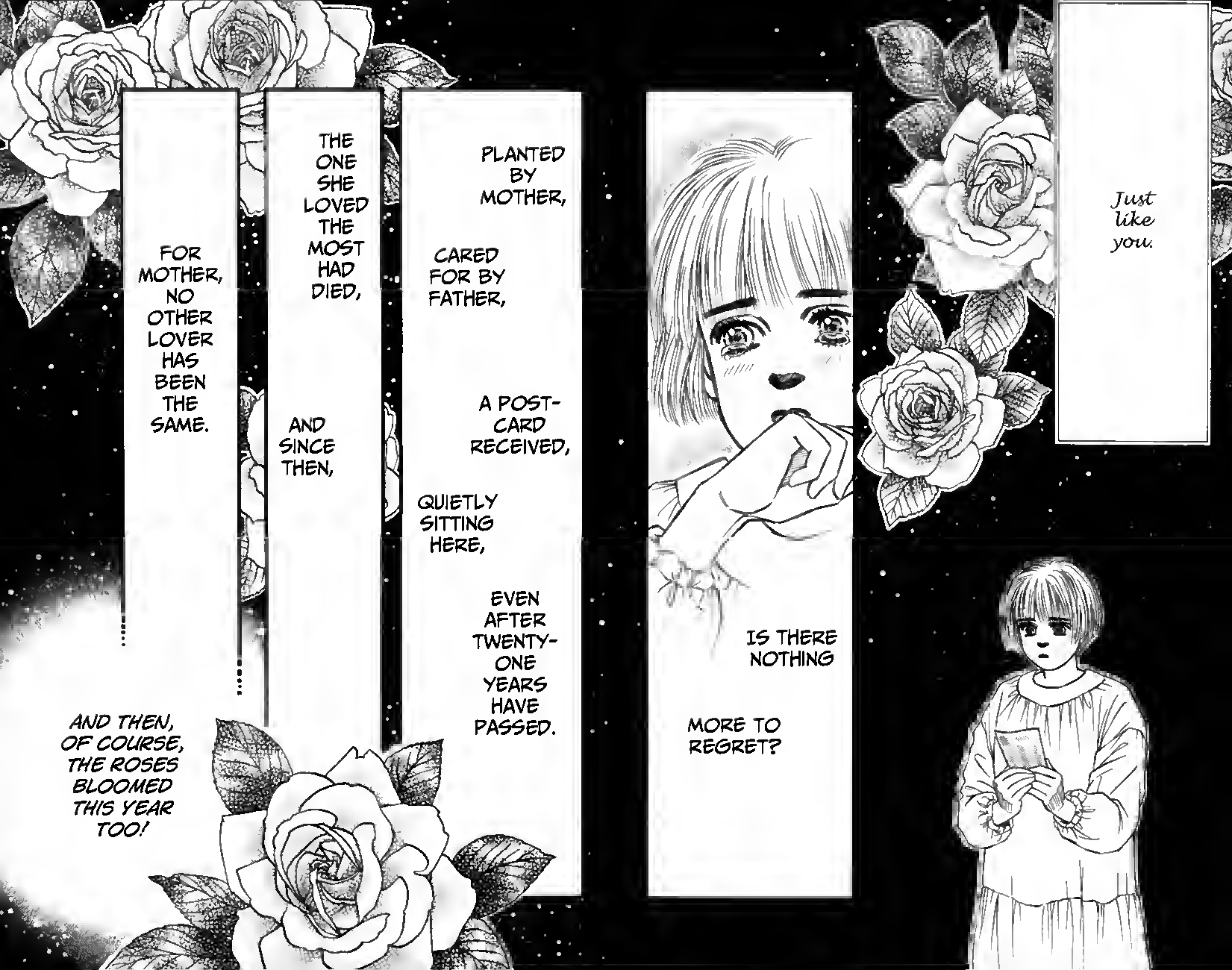
THEY'RE A LITTLE WILTED, THOUGH...
I WONDER IF I OUGHT TO PUT THIS IN MOTHER'S BEDROOM?
YEAH, THAT'S PRETTY.
Where's Mother staying about now?
While she has such a nice bedroom,

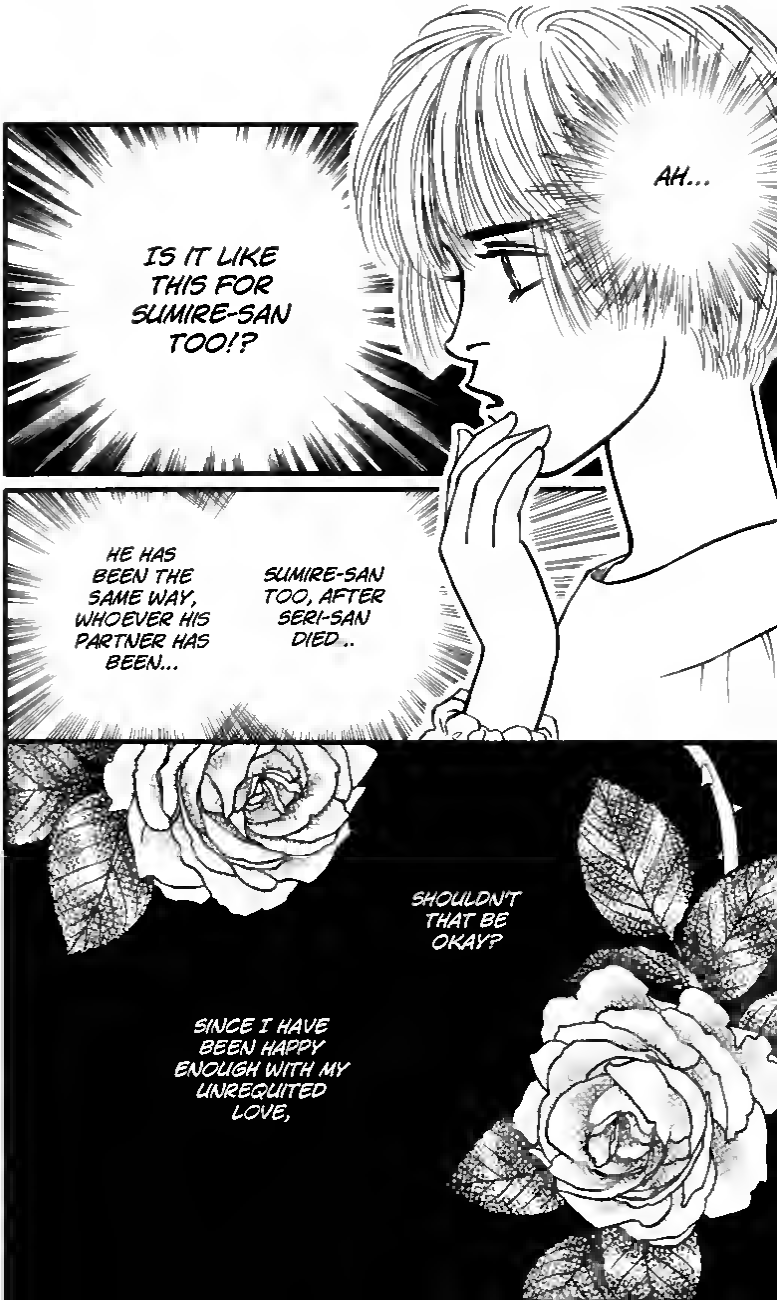
HUFF
HUFF
THAT WAS CLOSE~
AH
Poke!
OH NO!!
Wobble...
OH!
STOP THAT, YOU! IF YOU SPILL WATER ON A PLACE LIKE THIS...
LOOK, YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN WET.

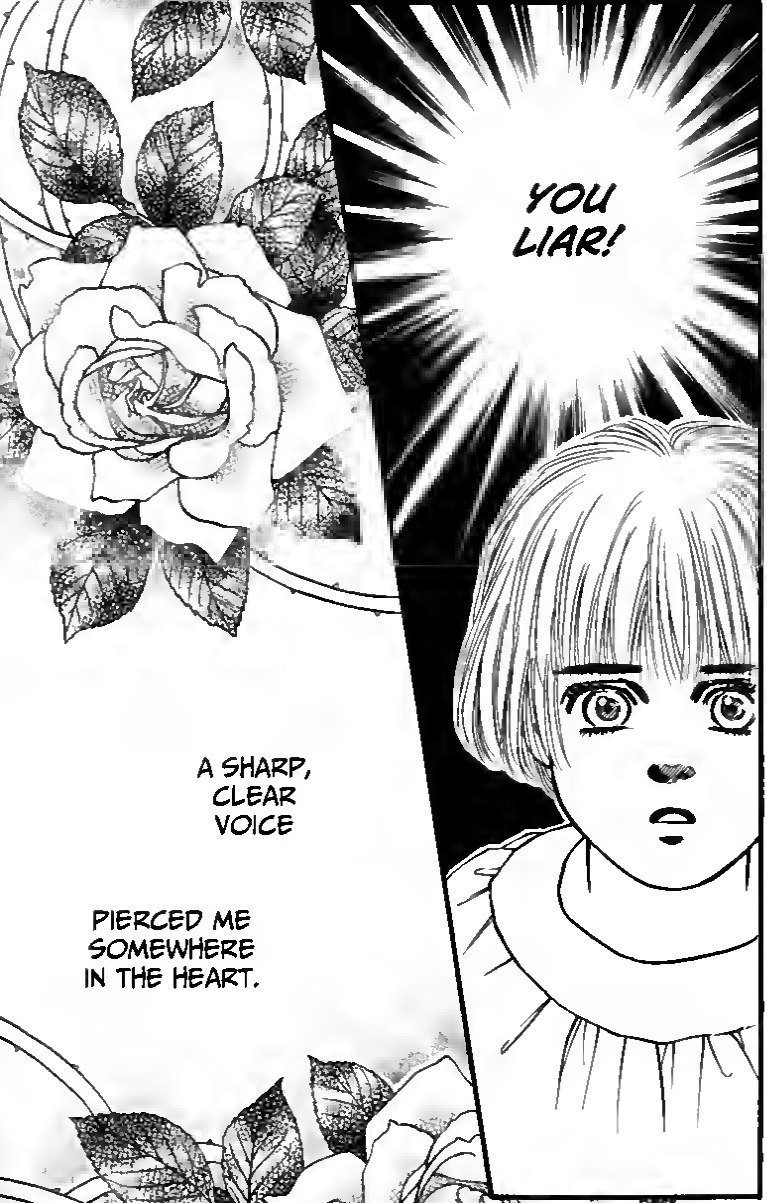
IT'S A POST-CARD...
Postal Card
WOW... A TEN YEN POST CARD...
IT'S REALLY OLD.
ba-dump!

THIS IS FROM FATHER!
Makurano Ichirou
POST-MARKED 21 YEARS AGO.
ADDRESSED TO MOTHER!


The roses you planted are in full bloom.
I'm always caring for them so they won't wither away.
So they'll bloom next year too.
And the year after next.


Just like you.
IS THERE NOTHING MORE TO REGRET?
EVEN AFTER TWENTY-ONE YEARS HAVE PASSED.
QUIETLY SITTING HERE,
A POST-CARD RECEIVED,
PLANTED BY MOTHER,
CARED FOR BY FATHER,
AND SINCE THEN,
THE ONE SHE LOVED THE MOST HAD DIED,
FOR MOTHER, NO OTHER LOVER HAS BEEN THE SAME.
AND THEN, OF COURSE, THE ROSES BLOOMED THIS YEAR TOO!


AH...
IS IT LIKE THIS FOR SUMIRE-SAN TOO!?
HE HAS BEEN THE SAME WAY, WHOEVER HIS PARTNER HAS BEEN...
SUMIRE-SAN TOO, AFTER SERI-SAN DIED..
SHOULDN'T THAT BE OKAY?
SINCE I HAVE BEEN HAPPY ENOUGH WITH MY UNREQUITED LOVE,



CHAPTER 52 - THE ROSE YOU PLANTED - THE END

What happens to me next?
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